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The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

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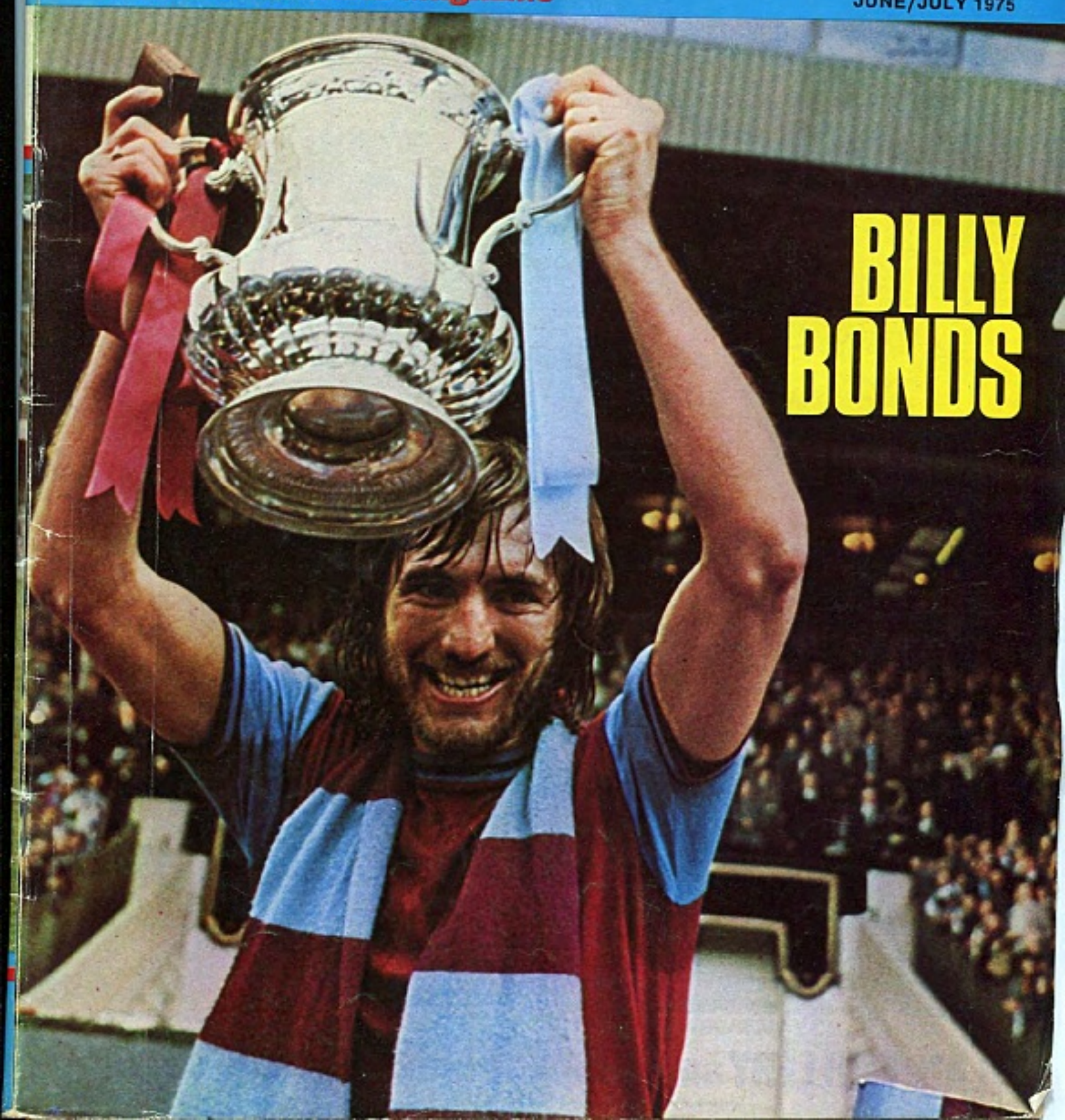

BILLY BONDS

ALAN MULLERY and BOBBY MOORE Fulham

World SOCCER

79 TEMPLE CHAMBERS - LONDON EC4
Telephone: 01-353 5688
Telex 28435
Editor PHILIP RISING
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WORLD SOCCER
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The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

Leeds United supporters in good spirits before the kick-off in Paris of the European Cup Final.

IS a club responsible for the behaviour of its supporters when they are hundreds of miles from home? The UEFA decision to ban Leeds United from European soccer until the end of 1978 suggests that the authorities, at least, see that as the position.

But the toughness of the UEFA decision will really have a two-pronged effect. First, it is a punishment on the offending Leeds United fans, and secondly, it is hoped that it will be a deterrent against any such future violence from any supporter.

There had to be punishment even though it is impossible for a club to stop supporters from going on the rampage in circumstances such as this year's European Cup Final. Doubtless the fact that certain Leeds United players were said to have applauded their followers after the match can scarcely have helped their cause.

Similarly we doubt that such a ban will really act as a deterrent. If supporters are hell-bent on destruction thoughts of what might happen afterwards to the club they are supposed to be following will not really enter their tiny minds.

The disgraceful behaviour of the Leeds supporters, however, is the latest in a disturbing line of incidents involving British soccer supporters.

The outcome is that the England football supporter is now not wanted on the continent. Too many vandals have done too much damage on excursions into Europe and our welcome is worn out.

It is a tragedy that Britain, once considered a bastion of good sportsmanship, should suddenly sink to the bottom of the popularity polls.

If the punishment meted out to Leeds in anyway prevents a repeat performance by British fans — any fans, for that matter — it will be considered worthwhile. We wish that we could have more confidence that this will be the case.

WE'RE BACK

We regret the delay in publication of this edition of World Soccer. This is as a result of industrial action, now ended, by the National Graphical Association.

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NOSTALGI

Jupp Heynkes shows off the UEFA Cup after Borussia Moenchengladbach had beaten Twente Enschede.

NOSTALGIA time at the Heysel for the Belgian Cup Final with Anderlecht finally winning 1-0 over Antwerp. For Paul Van Himst captain of the successful team it was his last appearance in the famous mauve and white of the Royal Sporting Club side.

Goalscorer Andre Denul was also making a farewell as he is to be transferred to Union Royale. And the man in the middle referee Vital Loraux was making his last appearance as a referee — officially that is, though at 50 next September he is trying to get one more season before he has to retire.

Anderlecht included their latest Dutch capture Arie Haan from Ajax and are adding further flavours from the Netherlands, notably a Dutch trainer in Hans Croon and his number two Dewitte. Also they hope to sign the Feyenoord striker Peter Ressel.

Van Himst who is leaving Anderlecht, has had offers from Antwerp, Standard Liege and new promoted La Louviere. Since his style is unlikely to suit Standard the choice looks a straight one between the other two clubs. La Louviere have a former Anderlecht colleague of Van Himst's in Jean Cornelis and this might swing his decision.

Urbain Braems the former trainer of Anderlecht is leaving to further his scholastic career but will as a part-timer keep Beveren in trim for football.

New League champions RWD Molenbeek are not going to allow Anderlecht to hog the headlines over signings and should certainly themselves be adding some new faces.

Consolation for runners up in League and Cup Antwerp as they will play in the UEFA Cup next season and will be looking to their dual Austrian spearhead of Riedl (28 goals) and Kodat (20) for their goalscoring power. Also the midfield trio of Heyligen, De Sayere and Deschrijver drew admiring attention and could form the basis of an even stronger challenge next season.

PSV EINDHOVEN'S signing of Nick Deacy the Hereford United striker does not guarantee this unknown Third Division player from England a first team place. At best he will be understudy to Ralf Edstrom the club's Swedish World Cup striker, but could become a hit in Holland if he can get among the goals with regular games.

Twente had a bad time of it in two cup finals losing the domestic competition 1-0 to FC Den Haag and then crashing out 5-1 at home in the second-leg of the UEFA Cup to Borussia Moenchengladbach.

Two goals down in nine minutes, Twente were destroyed by Jupp Heynckes who hit a hat-trick for the Germans. Volkmar Gross, Twente's German international goalkeeper who had kept his side in the game when they drew 0-0 in Germany, was on the receiving end again, but this time could do nothing about it. Heynckes who missed the first-leg through injury, was irresistible.

Holland's repeat World Cup Final with West Germany was a tame affair ending in a 1-1 draw. Two Twente players Zuidema and Thijssen made their second full appearance each for Holland but both went off at half-time. Zuidema was replaced by Kees Kist the AZ '67 striker and Thijssen went off allowing his club colleague Overweg to make his international debut.

Veteran Wim Van Hanegem scored Holland's goal in the 56th minute while winning his 43rd cap.

In losing 3-0 to Yugoslavia, Holland included only three World Cup players but on the face of it will have to do some drastic re-thinking about their national side.

Johan Cruyff one of Holland's most famous exiles is probably going to play his last season for Barcelona. Feyenoord, AZ '67 and his old club Ajax are all reported interested in him. But Barcelona will want an enormous fee—something

Vancouver spring surprises

THE North American Soccer League (NASL) season is well under way with 20 teams competing. Surprise team of the year so far have been the Vancouver Whitecaps, a team without stars and a team for the most part home grown.

Finishing in last place in the Western Division last year the Whitecaps won their first five games before losing at home to the Portland Timbers in a game in which they dominated but gave up two break-away goals. Up to that time they were grouped with the Washington Diplomats as the only unbeaten teams in the loop.

Vancouver's regular line up to date contains eight players who have played for Canada at one time or another with Sergio Zanatta, who last played for Canada in 1971, in second place in the NASL goal-scorers race. Los Angeles, last years champions trail the Whitecaps in the Western Division at the moment followed by Seattle with newly signed Mike England from Spurs in the defence. Seattle continue to draw well at the gate with a record attendance of 15,879 on hand to see them defeat the Los Angles Aztecs 3-1.

Former Chelsea favourite Peter Bonetti is in goal for the St Louis Stars who lead the Central Division while the Miami Toros, last years beaten finalists, lead the Eastern Division. The Rochester Lancers with much the same team as last year currently lead in the North in a league which features teams from New York and Toronto long regarded as the top two cities in North America for fan interest.

However, both cities are something of an enigma as far as the NASL is concerned for neither have come even close to realising their potential in paid attendances. When the two teams met in Toronto recently there was an announced attendance of just 4,796 and the calibre of play of both teams hardly augured well for the future of these clubs. To date the new Toronto club formed by the merger of last year Metros and Croatia from the National Soccer League has lost all four games and appear headed for a dismal season unless improvements can be made immediately.

After a long drawn out saga Pele signed for the New York Cosmos side in a deal reported to be worth over £2 million to the Brazilian over a three year period. No doubt the great man will boost attendances wherever he plays and it was felt in New York by the NASL brass that a player of Pele's calibre is all they needed to swing a lucrative television deal with the moguls of Madison Avenue.

Next month I'll be reporting in more detail of how Pele has settled down in the States and the effect his presence is having on the soccer scene in the States.

C MOMENT

WORLD SOCCER DIARY by Jack Rollin

approaching the record £922,300 they paid for him from Ajax and no Dutch club has that kind of money — not even Philips sponsored PSV Endhoven. So if Cruyff moves it will probably be to another Spanish club like Real Madrid.

JUVENTUS duly won their 16th League title having been top of the table for 25 of the 30 League weeks. The Vecchia Signora (First Lady) as Juve are known by their supporters are likely to act quickly to strengthen their side, despite this latest success.

Already they have been mentioned in connection with several new possible forward signings, with Boninsegna, Riva and Savoldi among the names mentioned. The Riva signing would take place as part of an exchange deal with Cuccureddu and Anastasi joining Cagliari.

But many consider Riva over the hill and that Savoldi has more to offer than either Riva or Boninsegna.

Juventus used only 15 players last season though only one of them, evergreen goalkeep Dino Zoff, played in all matches. Anastasi was top scorer with 10 goals, an achievement boosted when he came on as a substitute late in one game and scored a hat-trick. Giuseppe Damiani scored nine goals and veteran Jose Altafini got eight, most of these were also after nipping on towards the end of matches.

The fortunes of the national team do not produce much hope for any improvement. A 1-0 win in Helsinki against Finland came thanks to a goal just inside the half hour from a penalty by Giorgio Chinaglia, the World Cup "failure" of last year. The almost all-amateur Finns put up a much better display than expected and made the Italians look unfit and out of practice.

One of Finland's two professionals, Arto Tolsa who plays in Belgium for Beerschot, gave the penalty away. And a 1-0 defeat against the USSR in Moscow showed only the defence in good form.

Some little further joy came from the Italian Under-23's who beat Finland 3-0 at Pescara.

Gianni Rivera, the AC Milan captain who resigned after a big row with the club, says that he has quit the game for good. But a number of other teams are hoping he will change his mind. After playing 443 First Division matches and appearing in 60 internationals for Italy, the 31-year-old ex-Golden Boy is too shrewd to be lost entirely to the game.

HUMBERTO COELHO, captain of Benfica the champions and cup finalists and by far the outstanding player in the League this season, is the first of several notable Portuguese to go abroad during the close season.

He has signed for the French club Paris St. Germain and is to be followed by the Setubal players Octavio and Duda who are being sought by Spanish clubs Atletico Madrid and Seville respectively.

But perhaps the biggest name moving out of Portugal will be Hector Yazalde the Argentinian World Cup player, top scorer in the country for the last two seasons. Yazalde who hit 30 League goals this term for Sporting Lisbon, is being persuaded to join Olympique Marseille in France.

All this is due to the new freedom of contract won by the players after a show of force against the government in which they threatened to strike unless their demands were met. Benfica player Artur Jorge, an unsuccessful Communist candidate in recent elections, was the players champion in their struggle.

But disciplinary measures must continue if a trifle oddly, because as a result of pitch invasions in the matches between Benfica and Oriental on March 23 and Porto and Leixoes on April 13, there was no decision taken on these games until May 21 by which time both Benfica and Porto were involved in the cup. They were each banned from two home games and while Benfica came through without trouble, Porto were unable to make the semi-finals.

In these games Boavista beat Sporting 1-0 in the 117th minute; their extra time goal coming from Francisco Mario, while Benfica beat Belenenses 2-1 and much easier than the scoreline suggested.

Portugal beat Cyprus 2-0 in Limassol in the European Championship with goals from Nene and Moinhos, both of Benfica, but they have only three points from three matches and both Czechoslovakia and group leaders England appear in stronger positions.

THOUGH US Rumelange prevented Jeunesse D'Esch from a League and Cup double by beating the League champions in the Cup Final, the team who took all the attention were unknown La Sauvage who actually beat Rumelange 1-0 in the first-leg of their semi-final.

From a town of only 5,000 inhabitants this little side, ably coached by Luxembourg's most famour international Biz Konter, fought their way to within 90 minutes of appearing in the Cup Final and just another 90 from playing in Europe.

At international level Luxembourg continue to ply a lonely furrow in the European Championship despite the presence of their five professionals abroad in Belgium, France and Germany. Louis Pilot (Antwerp), Paul Philipp (Standard Liege), Jean Zuang (Lyon), Nico Braun (Metz) and Gilbert Dussier (Volklingen) are experienced exiles, but cannot help but add to the youthful enthusiasm of the local amateurs.

OLYMPIAKOS clinched the title again a week from the end of the season in beating bottom of the table Larissa 1-0. There was a scramble at the foot, too, because there will only be 16 teams in the First Division next term against 18 this season.

In the European Championship Greece kept slender hopes of qualifying alive by beating Malta 4-0, but they had lost 2-0 in Valetta and both Bulgaria and West Germany will in the end dispute the leadership between them.

Iosifides put the Greeks 3-0 up early in the second-half after first-half goals by Mavros and Antoniadis (penalty). Veteran Papaioannou added number four just under the hour.

Recognise the gent on the left on holiday in Bermuda? It's Bobby Charlton with his friend Freddie Pye, the Manchester City vice-president with their respective wives.

PARIS FOLLY

by KEN GOLDMAN who was in the Leeds United crowd at the Parc des Princes Stadium

Debris in Paris after the European Cup Final.

AS one who was present at the Leeds-Bayern match, survived the bottle and other missile throwing lived and returned in one piece I feel I can tell the tale. If you saw it on television in inglorious colour with upturned sound let me tell you that it is impossible to imagine the horror unless one is used to crowd violence.

The Leeds fanimals (truly a cross between fan and animal) went berserk from the moment referee Kitabdjian wrongly in my opinion disallowed Peter Lorimer's "goal" and reached lunatic proportions after Bayern broke away to score their first goal moments later. From the merely docile apple cores and pieces of fruit which had been hurled at the tracksuited guards who stood facing the Leeds supporters right from their entry into the stadium, a steady progress was made to larger or more dangerous missiles being launched at these men and at the foolish cameramen who approached the barriers and tried to take pictures in the same way as they would of animals in a zoo.

Thus incensed lunatic fringes jumped up and down on the seats until they broke and these were hurled sometimes with parts of their moorings together with bottles at anyone over the other side of the fence and deep moat. Indeed how it was possible for a couple of men actually to get onto the pitch at all in view of these formidable barriers I do not know but once having achieved their objective they were summarily dealt with by the police who threw them back over the same fences onto not very friendly concrete.

Unpardonable

Of course, this crass crowd behaviour was unpardonable even though the Leeds followers considered their team had had the worst of the refereeing decisions. Indeed having witnessed the scenes at Rotterdam last year when Spurs fans were involved and knowing what the Manchester United fanimals did in Belgium not forgetting Rangers' crowd in Barcelona it is becoming a shameful matter to admit one is an English football supporter abroad, these days.

This is particularly unfair on the unbiased fan and on the vast majority of Leeds supporters who behaved impeccably on this recent trip even to the extent of putting themselves in physical danger trying to stop their ruthless compatriots from wrecking and fighting. One man on the plane back was so incensed that he stated that he was ashamed to go back to Leeds since the people there would associate all those who took the trip with the trouble that went on in Paris, whether they were innocent or not.

Responsibility

The time has surely come when only members of supporters clubs and season ticket holders should be permitted to obtain tickets and travel abroad. In that way responsibility could be apportioned and some form of insurance bond could be taken out to pay for damage that occurs if this idea does not eradicate it. To continue to punish clubs for the crimes of others, many of whom only pay for the affray is really exacting revenge on the innocent, even though the Leeds players did not help their cause by saluting the rioting fans after the game.

Returning to the match itself, as one who had an unusual position in relation to Peter Lorrimer's shot I feel I can add my two pennyworth. I was seated almost exactly behind Maier when the ball travelled to Lorimer and I am positive that from that moment onwards Maier concentrated wholly on Lorimer, his foot and the ball and was distracted by nothing and no one. His arms flailed upwards as the ball struck the back of the net with rocket force and he could hardly have seen that, let alone anything else. Maier incidentally, whom one has always considered suspect, played an outstanding game and one save from Bremner when he was right through really proved to be a matchwinner in the end.

Leeds unfortunately persisted in a sterile approach which saw the ball knocked up to Jordan in the air who was invariably in turn knocked up in the air by Shwartzenbeck. When this wasn't happening the centreback was winning fifty per cent of the balls anyway so why Leeds did not change their tactics is hard to understand. It was indeed sad to see the skills of Eddy Gray and Duncan Mackenzie on the subs bench when the match began.

Worked

Finally I can't conclude without paying tribute to Muller who worked hard throughout and took his goal in his own inimitable manner and my man of the match Franz Beckenbauer who was the master tactician and is one of the finest passers of a ball it has ever been my privilege to see.

Apart from the horrors of the crowd behaviour I have described, I am left with the lasting memory of Beckenbauer chipping a ball forty yards into a spot which he knew a team mate was racing for and making it land at that player's feet at just the right time. If we could produce some of that in Britain we would soon have the crowds flocking back and perhaps excluding the roudies and rioters.

LESLIE VERNON—our man in Basle, for the Cup Winners Cup Final files his report

KIEV WERE SUPREME WINNERS

WHEN I made my usual spectacularly impressive entrance into the Hungarians' HQ in Basel, I found the Ferencvaros camp in an unexpectedly buoyant mood. On the day before the European Cup Winners Cup Final, there was widespread optimism based solely on the team's heroic performances in the previous rounds of the competition.

"If we managed to KO Liverpool and Red Star Belgrade, why shouldn't we be equally lucky/successful against Dynamo Kiev?" was the question I heard posed time and again by players, officials and the camp followers who gathered in and around the Hotel Europe literally from the four corners of the world. "Ferencvaros are always at their best in Finals", a gent from Montreal assured me, who hadn't seen a football match since 1938.

But while the neighbouring Cafe Bajazzo did brisk business in tanking-up these fans with nerve-strengthening black coffee, a certain amount of doubt crept into the subconscious of the inner circle.

Dezso Novak, official spy of Fradi, told me that Kiev were an excellent all-round team, and unless the green-and-whites played at their peak, they would be in trouble. Andras Beres, a Belgium-based Hungarian exile and ex-coach of Beershott, said that the Ukranians play ultramodern football and that they'll tear the Fradi defence apart. Beres, an expansive, likeable character, offered three bottles of wine against one on Dynamo, and if he managed to collect all his winnings, he must still be in Basel under one of the tables of the Bajazzo!

While Ferencvaros, true to their traditional image of friendship and hospitality, kept an open house, Kiev built an impregnable wall around themselves within the confines of the Hotel International. No journalist, photographer, wine waiter or bunny girl was allowed inside this Ukranian ghetto. Consequently, the sparse — 13,000 — crowd was all for Ferencvaros, and the Russians were good-humouredly booed on the field.

Impeccably

It is worth mentioning here that the Final was impeccably organised and presented by the Swiss FA, in conjunction with the UEFA, and that Mr Max Pusterla did an excellent job in looking after the Press. It was also interesting to note that when the Russian players' names were announced on the loudspeaker and were jeered by a section of the crowd, the announcer stopped.

He reminded the assembly that this was a sporting occasion, and it is traditional for the Burghers of Basel to welcome visiting sportsmen with courtesy. Why can't we do the same at Wembley, where the boorish behaviour of a quite substantial portion of the crowd habitually shames the rest of us into acquiescent silence?

Ferencvaros took the field without the suspended Balint, the injured Branikovits, and Pusztai, who was laid low hours before the match with a leg infection. Surprisingly, Jeno Dalnoki picked Pataki as a sweeper, kept Mucha in midfield, and relied on the Szabo-Mate-Magyar forward trio. But this was a rather stereotyped 1-3-3-3 formation, and the absence of three experienced players proved too big a handicap to carry.

Dynamo played a loose 4-4-2 with only Onishenko and Blochin up-front. They looked superby fit during the pre-match warm-up (our first glimpse at them), and then they produced 90 minutes' football which left us all gasping with admiration. After 10 minutes' play my built-in prejudices melted away (blood is thicker than vodka!) and I just sat back and felt proud to be associated with football.

Kiev, on that balmy night in picturesque Basel, not so much beat Fradi, but ignored them. Their fluent, modern "total football" started from the back, where the elegant Fomenko controlled the game with the minimum of fuss. Troshkin made searching runs on the right, Muntian — back at his Mexican form — was always inventive and penetrating, Kolotov dominant and dangerous, and young Burjak looked a world-class player in the making.

This extremely skilled, fast moving middle-line, was always in the driving seat, while the spearhead stretched the Hungarians' defence by running incessantly, pulling players out of position, creating room for the second wave to capitalise on situations which were created by their own astute initiative.

Goals had to come, and they were worth waiting for. A brilliant pass found Onishenko in the 18th minute just inside the penalty box, he side-stepped the defence, and slammed an unstoppable shot past Istvan Geczi. In the 39th minute, the same forward dribbled towards the centre near the touchline, and suddenly released a viciously swerving 30 yarder. Geczi, by that time slightly bewildered, made a clumsy attempt to push the ball over the bar, but it flew past his knuckles into the top left-hand corner of the net.

Blochin became the scourge of the Hungarians in the second-half, as he bore down time and again on the unfortunate Pataki. This slight, hunchback figure, who only played once previously in the first team, had as much chance of stopping the astronaut-like centre-forward as I would have against Muhammed Ali, and in the 67th minute after a solo run, the ball finished up in the Fradi goal. 3-0 — but it could have been five or six!

Obvious penalty

Referee Davidson missed an obvious penalty when Pataki pulled down Blochin, although at the other end, Juhasz was also unfairly pushed over by Matvienko.

This match has thrown-up a few intriguing questions, such as, how did Dynamo improve so dramatically in such a short space of time? Where do they stand now on the European rating list? Firstly, the timing of the Final was ideal for the Soviet champions. They had had only five league games behind them, and at the beginning of their season, they were obviously perfectly tuned, ball-hungry, and full of running. Ferencvaros, on the other hand, had come to the end of a very arduous, hard campaign. Apart from the injured, several players were nursing slight knocks, pulled muscles, groin strains. That is why they were less ready to do battle, and let themselves be overrun and outclassed.

But I can confidently forecast a bright future for Dalnoki's team, especially for youngsters Rab, who stuck to his task manfully at centre-back, and for the long-legged Nyilasi, who showed touches of real class, although he has not yet developed a proper sense of responsibility as a member of a team — a cog (however individualistic) in a machine.

AYALA ADDS A TOUCH OF IRONY

Ruben Ayala.

SPAIN by Keir Radnedge

THE World Club Cup seemed a good idea at first. Real Madrid, Penarol, Santos and Benfica gave the competition a send-off worthy of the name. It was in 1963, when the Italians and Argentinians first became involved that things went awry.

Milan met Santos, won the first leg in Italy (4-2) and were then beaten twice in Brazil (2-4, 0-1) thanks to a great deal of bad temper and some extremely dubious refereeing by an Argentinian named Juan Brozzi, who was quickly struck off the international lists for his part in Santos' victory.

The following year the Italian-Argentinian feud exploded with Internazionale meeting Independiente — the principal exponents of anti-football of two Continents — and the World Club Cup was doomed.

It has survived for one reason: The South Americans need the money, and that was evident in the way this time that Independiente — defending champions after beating Juventus 1-0 in Rome last year — grumbled when Atletico Madrid refused a third game should the teams finish level on points after two matches.

Ironically

When the "Red Devils of Avallaneda" first took part in the World Club Cup it was, ironically, in a play-off in Madrid that they met eventual defeat, after having their skilful right back Roberto Ferreiro sent off.

And, so the wheel turns and turns, when Independiente arrived at Barajas Airport, Madrid, for this year's second leg there was Ferreiro again — this time as club coach.

Atletico were taking part in the stead of the otherwise-engaged Bayern Munich, but you wouldn't have thought they were second best in both Europe and Madrid from the rapturous celebrations of the *Colchoneros'* fans at the end of the game.

Having gone down 1-0 in Buenos Aires they recovered to win 2-0 in the Estadio Vicente Calderon, and trainer Luis Aragones was swept up in triumph and carried on the shoulders of the fans at the end of the 90 minutes.

More irony still, the second Atletico goal, which didn't come until four minutes from time, was scored by Argentinian World Cup man Ruben Hugo Ayala. And 25-year-old Ayala and 24-year-old sweeper Ramon Heredia had been the principal targets for Ferreiro's sarcasm after the first leg.

Independiente were missing the injured World Cup defender Pancho Sa, and the teams were:

Atletico: Pacheco; Melo, Heredia, Eusebio, Capon; Adelardo, Irureta, Alberto (Saleedo 71); Aguilar, Garate, Ayala.

Independiente: Perez; Commiso, Lopez, Carrica, Pavoni; Saggioratto, Galvan, Bochini; Balbuena, Percy Rojas (Rodriguez 68), Bertoni.

No World Club Cup game would be complete without at least a few bookings, of course — skipper Ricardo Pavoni and Hugo Jose Saggioratto for fouls, Ricardo Bertoni for time-wasting and Eduardo Commiso for deliberate hands; and Jose Luis Capon for dangerous kicking.

No expulsions, however, for Chilean referee Carlos Robles, who had a very good game until a strange oversight seven minutes from time. With Atletico 1-0 up through Javier Irureta after 21 minutes, Robles failed to see one of the most blatant penalties never awarded here. Argentinian-born Jose Eulogia Garate was clean through into the penalty area when Commiso pulled him down, but Senor Robles chose to ignore the incident.

Another refereeing peculiarity to add to the saga. Fortunately for the referee's health Ayala got the winner a minute or two later. But it makes you wonder . . .

As also we wonder what will happen to Luis. Perhaps this victory will just tilt the balance in favour of retaining him for another year.

Curiously

No such luck for Milovan Ciric, however. Valencia have fired him already. And curiously it was a 5-2 defeat by Atletico which was the last nail in his coffin. Ciric, of course, was on the way out anyway, but it had been expected that he would at least have lasted out the season. The defeat by Atletico really gave Valencia a relegation headache however, so out he went.

His replacement for the time being is the man he brought in to help him last summer when he took over from Alfredo di Stefano — 46-year-old Dragan Milosevic, another Yugoslav.

At least no one else is approaching second division Mallorca's record — they've just appointed their fourth trainer of the season.

Former CF Barcelona star Cesar Rodriguez led them out at the start of the campaign, to be replaced by his own No 2, Hugo Villamide. He lasted three weeks before Manuel de la Torre took over, and now he's been fired to make way for Alfredo Vera, the former Espanol, Malaga and Atletico Madrid goalkeeper.

For all that Mallorca finished a com-

fortable middle-of-the-table side. And they don't have the financial worries either besetting Murcia — relegated from the first division. They're £350,000 in debt! No wonder the president and his board quit!

The relegation fight kept interest going until the season's end. The championship issue of course had been settled long before. Real Madrid took the title, making sure with a 1-1 draw at San Sebastian and then, incredibly, lost 6-1 (!) at Zaragoza. It was Madrid's heaviest defeat for 20 years.

Zaragoza ultimately finished second, and could well set the UEFA Cup alight next season. With them in the third European competition will be Barcelona and San Sebastian — unless one of these three wins the Cup, then Hercules of Alicante will go into Europe.

Malaga and Celta go down with Murcia, and their places are taken by Oviedo, coached by former Madrid defender Vicente Miera, Santander and Sevilla. Now the city of Seville is buzzing at the prospect of having both their clubs in the first division next season.

Betis, who finished ninth in the 18-club table, have already started buying for next term. I told the story of the Garcia Soriano transfer in the last issue. Now Betis are taking on 25-year-old Attila Ladinsky, from Anderlecht, for £113,000.

Tough going

The Hungarian, who played for Tatabanya, Vasas and then Feyenoord, was top scorer in Belgium with 22 goals in 1973-4, but he found the going tough this time and didn't see eye-to-eye with coach Urbain Braems — especially after being pulled back into midfield when Anderlecht lost 3-0 in Greece to Olympiakos in the Champions' Cup.

With Paul van Himst quitting Anderlecht too in a huff over the £153,000 signing of Ajax's Arie Haan, quite a number of Spanish clubs have been running the rule over the deposed Belgian champions lately.

Another ex-Ajax man has found his way to Spain — Johnny Rep, who scored the winner over Juventus in the 1973 Champions' Cup Final. He's joining Valencia for £120,000.

Atletico Madrid are looking to Portugal for their reinforcements: 25-year-old Octavio Joaquim Coelho Machado (Octavio to you) seems likely to join from Vitoria Setubal just as long as Atletico can straighten out the situation over the naturalisation of Ayala and Heredia.

Octavio has been with Vitoria six years and won seven Portuguese caps, but the Ayala problem might resolve itself another way. Whether he will want to stay after being down graded into midfield recently is a moot point.

Atletico were also interested, like Feyenoord, in the 25-year-old Benfica stopper Humberto Coelho (29 caps), but now he's signed a four-year contract with Paris St-Germain. Milorad Pavic, the Benfica boss who joined them from Bilbao last summer, rates Humberto a more complete player than either Beckenbauer and Neeskens. But then Benfica, it seems, need the money.

Pavic, himself, is likely to return to Bilbao after a row in Portugal with the home trainers who protested that he was being paid too much.

Either way, the foreigners merry-go-round will do nothing to solve the national team's problems for Ladislav Kubala.

He thought he was onto a real winner (at last!) after the 2-1 win at Hampden, but after first Scotland and now Rumania have come over for 1-1 draws, he's obviously got to think again.

Against the Rumanians before 100,000 in Chamartin, Kubala leant heavily on a Real/Atletico selection, throwing in the irreplaceable Jose Iribar and "Checho" Rojo from Bilbao and CFB's Carlos Rexach for good measure. Manolo Velazquez opened the scoring after six minutes, but the 23-year-old Mures midfielder, Ladislav Balaci, in his first international, equalised in the 69th and the Rumanians had few problems holding out.

Get back

Kubala now has until October 12 and the visit of Denmark to get back on the right road in the European Championship — if a club doesn't snap him up first, of course.

And now, to end as usual with some more refereeing trouble.

You may recall how Gallego was banned for three games for insulting referee Diego Balaguer after Barcelona's defeat at Las Palmas.

Gallego then took the highly-unusual step of appealing to the federation and, remarkably, succeeded not only in having the ban quashed but in seeing Balaguer censured for wasting everyone's time.

Balaguer, furious, announced that he was quitting soccer provoking all sorts of rumours of a referees' strike. What upset the referees' organisation was the fear that in winning his appeal Gallego was overthrowing their authority — with the complicity of the FEF — and that in future games may be that much harder to control.

Involved

Not that one Molina Segovia did their cause much good after being involved in a fracas with a journalist while dining out with Hercules officials before the game in Alicante against Atletico Madrid. He then sent off Atletico's Argentinian defender Panadero Diaz as the Madrid side went down 3-2 and earned himself a four-week suspension for fraternising with club officials.

Thankfully he has not appealed . . .

I wish more players and officials would take to heart this lovely quip of Bayern boss, Dettmar Cramer:

"I never criticise referees' decision, even when they're clearly ridiculous. First, because you can't do anything about it. And secondly, *because the referee is right even when he's wrong.*"

Amen to that.

SPAIN
Final Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	**34**	**20**	**10**	**4**	**66**	**34**	**50**
Real Zaragoza	34	15	8	11	58	47	38
Barcelona	34	15	7	12	57	36	37
Real Sociedad	34	12	12	10	37	32	36
Hercules	34	11	14	9	37	36	36
Atletico Madrid	34	11	13	10	46	34	35
Salamanca	34	10	15	9	33	29	35
Betis	34	14	6	13	35	41	34
Elche	34	13	8	13	35	44	34
Athletic Bilbao	34	13	7	14	40	42	33
Espanol	34	14	5	15	38	47	33
Valencia	34	12	8	14	53	48	32
Las Palmas	34	12	8	14	41	39	32
Gijon	34	11	10	13	40	40	32
Granada	34	10	11	13	35	47	31
Malaga	34	13	5	16	33	42	31
Celta	34	10	10	14	30	41	30
Murcia	34	7	9	18	31	66	23

Breitner and Santillana in action for Spanish champions Real Madrid against Elche.

World Soccer presents a plans Argentina is making for

FIVE CEN BE READ

From **PAUL RADFORD** in Buenos Aires

ALTHOUGH there are still three years to go before soccer's next great showpiece — the 1978 World Cup — criticism continues to be levelled at Argentina's ability (some say inability) to host the tournament.

In Argentina itself the criticism is seen, perhaps correctly, as a political move by European nations to have the 1978 World Cup moved to a site in the "Old World".

The criticisms usually directed at Argentina include lack of organisation, lack of progress in building and renovating grounds and security problems caused by guerrilla activity.

But a recent visit to Argentina has convinced me, at least, that at this stage it would be a rash man indeed who could state categorically that Argentina will not be ready to host the world's foremost soccer tournament.

Problems there may be, but there seems little reason to believe that Argentina cannot stage the next World Cup and stage it well.

Extensions

At the moment the organising committee is proposing that the event be held in five centres — Buenos Aires, Rosario, Mar del Plata, Cordoba and Mendoza. In the two last-named cities new grounds are being built and work on them started in recent months. Ground extensions and improvements are to be made at the Rosario Central ground and the Mar del Plata stadium.

If completed on schedule these works will all be finished by the end of 1977.

The River Plate stadium in Buenos Aires, where the final will be held, needs little improvement as it is already among the most impressive grounds in the world. An extension to be built at one end of the stadium will make the ground a "double-decker" round its whole circumference as well as increasing the capacity from 72,000 to 95,000.

Should any of these stadia not be ready three other centres — in Salta, Tucuman and Corrientes — are being prepared in the provinces and the Velez Sarsfield stadium in Buenos Aires will also be standing by. The latter is already a large modern stadium and would need little improvement except in car parking and press facilities.

As far as the press is concerned there should be little cause for complaint in 1978. So keen are the organisers to ensure that optimum facilities are provided for the media that they even proposed naming the tournament "the World Cup of the Press".

The organising committee has also wisely appointed a sub-committee of four experienced working journalists to deal with press problems. One of them explained to me: "There were about 3,000 journalists in West Germany for last year's finals. So we're expecting more than 4,000 and we want to cater for them properly."

The media will accordingly be provided with abundant numbers of radio and TV cabins, telexes, phones, etc.

But what of the spectators? If they arrive in large numbers from abroad there could conceivably be difficulties both in transportation and accommodation.

Cordoba is 400 miles from Buenos Aires by road and Mendoza about 700 miles. And though Argentina has a good internal air network as well as train and bus services there may be difficulties in moving large numbers of people.

Accommodation is an even trickier question as it is practically impossible to predict how many visitors will take

River Plate stadium.

Model of Rosario Central stadium.

four-page report on the the 1978 World Cup finals

TRES WILL Y ON TIME

a soccer holiday in Argentina until the qualifiers are known. For example, if by some misfortune Brazil should fail to qualify the tens of thousands, or possibly hundreds of thousands of Brazilians who are expected to stream south would then become a mere trickle.

New international hotels are to be built in Cordoba and Mendoza, but the organisers see little point in erecting new hotels everywhere for the sake of it.

Available

Mar del Plata will certainly be able to cope as the town is Argentina's leading sea resort and has accommodation for more than 70,000 visitors, most of which will be available as the World Cup is being held outside the sun-worshippers' season.

Buenos Aires itself is bristling with hotels but accommodation could be strained by the demands of the World Cup finals, and the same could happen in the other centres.

Guerrilla activity is currently at a serious level in Argentina with daily reports of gun-battles between police and extremists. Whether or not this could spill over into the World Cup is impossible to predict at three years' distance, but there seems little reason why it should.

Argentine guerrillas generally confine their activities to political assassinations and shooting at the police and army and, one hopes, will not be interested in blowing up stadia.

As the Munich Olympics show there is bound to be a security threat, either from internal or external forces, at any major sporting event.

The final and most delicate problem, as always, is money. Economically Agentina is, quite frankly, in a mess, but the government has promised full financial support and will doubtless provide it. The importance for national prestige of the World Cup is strongly felt by both the government and the Argentine public so we can expect that all stops will be pulled out to make the tournament a success.

When I asked a journalist from the organising sub-committee what the main problems would be in 1978 his answer was simple. "None," he said. "Argentina has done much more difficult things in the past," he argued. "For example, we've built nuclear power plants. So there's no reason why we can't stage the World Cup successfully."

Perspective

And though he may have been overstating his case, his argument does put the issue into a better perspective. Organising the World Cup is, after all, not the most difficult thing in the world. A Briton living in Argentina told me that back in 1952 Argentina was given two months to organise the Pan-American Games — and did so successfully even though new stadia had to be built for various sports.

Argentina should be able to do it again for 1978. There are certainly very few Argentines who don't think so. So perhaps we in Europe should stop carping and let them get on with the job.

Model of Mendoza stadium.

Model of Mar del Plata stadium.

Menotti nothing to

by Andrew Tarnowski of Reuter in Buenos Aires

CESAR Luis Menotti feels that the key to building a successful side lies in the natural artistry of the Argentine players. He has made three fundamental decisions about team-building since his appointment: he will not use "exile" players; his team will play "Argentina style" football and will not try to ape European "Total" football; his players will have intensive practice against European sides over the next three years.

Menotti exploded when asked whether he would use exiles. "Absolutely not," he said. "This does not interest me." There is now no ban on Argentina players going abroad. "There could be in 1976. But this is a matter for the State to decide. I think it would cause discontent if the players had to turn down good offers," Menotti said.

He is scathing about "Total" football. "People talk of speed and strength," he said, "but this is just silly. Football is a question of space on the pitch, of creation and restriction of space. I do not believe in so called "Total" football."

He says "Total" football is a product of the technical limitations of European players, and he believes its concentration on physical fitness has lowered the standard of international soccer. Play in the 1974 was inferior to that in Mexico four years earlier, he adds.

Athletes

"We will give physical fitness the importance it has and no more. I think it has been given too much emphasis over the past few years. Talented players have been replaced by athletes, and these are more difficult to make into good players."

He believes South American players are generally more skilled and creative than European players. "I mean Yugoslavia might have 10 highly skilled players at the top, but in comparison Argentina and Brazil would have 100 each."

Menotti blames Argentina's past World Cup failures on last-minute preparation, lack of practice against Europeans and consequent surprise when confronting an unknown style. The only way to overcome the Europeans, he said, is to concentrate on the technical superiority of the individual Argentine player.

"We are going to respect the qualities of the Argentine player. They do not chase for 90 minutes. But they mark well and work well in zones. Argentine football is creative and talented, and we are going to adapt it to the technical requirements, always respecting its characteristics."

A firm believer in specialist players, he argues that West Germany beat Holland in the 1974 World Cup Final because its team was individually more skilled. "Johan Cruyff was everywhere for the Dutch, but in the end it was West Germany's specialist goalscorer Gerd Muller who won the match.

"Now I am not going to leave out a good defender because he only defends. I still believe in specialists," Menotti declared. He is trying to build friendly, even fatherly, relations with his players while forming the basis of his squad.

He says that a national coach in Argentina has to be more than a "technico" and a tactician, because players live in a state of tension caused by financial insecurity. "Even the top stars do not receive enough to guarantee financial security here," Menotti said. With club standards declining, he is worried that Argentine soccer talent might be on the wane.

"The Argentine player has lost personality as he became increasingly concerned about his economic future," he explained.

Players were more ready to accept a system and felt less free to back the trainer and try to shine individually. Menotti hopes the incentive provided through long-term World Cup preparations and emphasis on individual skills will help reassert the personality aspect and produce a confident and creative team by 1978.

On one score Menotti says he has no worries . . . the usual tug-of-war between club and international commitments as he prepares to take his squad on extensive European tours in 1975 and 1976. He flourished a letter from the AFA officials declaring total support for his requests for any players he required.

Exiled players

IN contrast to Argentina's previous ventures in the World Cup, new boss Cesar Luis Menotti is leaving nothing to chance. With more than three years to go, he has begun forming three teams for which, he hopes, a world-beating Argentina eleven will emerge to grab the trophy.

Menotti says he will never have "exiled" players in his World Cup side. He is scouring the country for talent he believes previous national coaches overlooked.

Menotti's three teams are a junior squad aged under 21, a team of semi-amateurs from clubs in the Argentine interior, and a fully-fledged national side to meet the current international commitments. The latter two teams are being restricted to players up to the age of 24, as prospects for 1978, although Menotti says he will be flexible about the limit.

"In all I am watching about 60 players to get a wide panorama of Argentine football. Past national trainers have usually watched only the 20 major teams in the Metropolitan League," said Menotti. The Metropolitan first division includes 14 teams from Buenos Aires and its surroundings, and two each from the cities of Rosario, Santa Fe and La Plata.

Although these include most of Argentina's top sides, they are restricted to two provinces and a radius of 400 kilometres from the capital, in a country as large and varied as western Europe where distances are measured in thousands of miles.

In the rest of the 25 provinces, local teams play in provincial leagues, and the

will leave chance...

HE is tall, almost gangling, with a professional air more reminiscent of a laboratory researcher than a soccer supremo. The long, pensive face is almost grave as he quietly discusses Argentina's chances in the 1978 World Cup at the small, slightly shabby, office he shares with two assistants on the fifth floor of the Argentine Football Association headquarters.

"The trouble," he says, "is that Argentina has never faced up to international matches with sufficient seriousness." The youngish, dark-eyed man with chestnut hair slightly peppered with grey is Cesar Luis Menotti, and his task is to put that right.

He took over on January 1 as Argentina's manager-trainer for the World Cup competition to be played here in June 1978. At 37 Menotti has been given powers unprecedented in Argentina soccer history, his contract with the AFA, running to the end of 1978, is the longest ever given to a national soccer coach here.

Argentina has never yet had a single trainer to manage its World Cup preparations throughout the four-year periods between competitions, and has never won the cup. Nor has the AFA previously appointed a University graduate — Menotti qualified as a chemical engineer at the University of Buenos Aires — to organise team building with scientific precision.

Fans here joke, with a touch of embarrassment that the "Argentine way" of preparing for soccer competitions is to gather the players two weeks before, run them through their paces and send them off. But this time soccer's golden crown, the FIFA World Cup, will be at stake before soccer mad home crowds and the Peronist government and the AFA are tackling the preparations with deadly seriousness.

Menotti, a father of two who describes himself as a man with a passion for soccer, grimaces slightly when asked his view of Argentina's failure in the 1974 World Cup. "Individually we showed our players are still good, but as a team it just did not work. The whole thing was arranged too hurriedly and it was badly organised," he said.

In fact it was the old story. Trainer Omar Sivori, appointed before the competition, managed a successful European tour in 1972, including a win over East Germany. Then he had disagreements with AFA officials and resigned three months before Munich.

His successor, Ladislao Cap, barely got to know the players before rushing them off on a last-minute European tour which did nothing to help morale. The final team was a hotch-potch of national and "exiled" players. Menotti is confident he will not have the same trouble.

"Look," he said, "for the first time I have a contract valid until the end of World Cup year, so I am sure of staying. Of course, the contract could be broken if results are bad. But I have defence clauses and they would have to compensate me."

Menotti has good reason for his confidence, in a country when the tenure of managers is notoriously short and unstable. He trained the Buenos Aires first division team Huracan for four years from 1971 to 1974. And, just as a bonus, he moulded Huracan into the National champions in 1973 for the first time in 46 years.

Under Menotti, Huracan was the most technically skilled team in the country. They won matches with ball control, natural attacking play and brilliant improvisation. Huracan, in fact, provided Argentina's 1974 World Cup team with two of its outstanding players . . . midfield star Carlos Babington and forward Rene Houseman.

Training

Menotti himself, despite his exceptional height, had a long and distinguished career as a midfield player before starting his training career with Newell's Old Boys, a Rosario first division team, and then moving to Huracan.

As a player he represented the Argentine first division clubs Rosario Central, Racing Club and Boca Juniors. He then moved to Brazil to join Santos and Juventus of Sao Paulo. Later he went to the United States to join the Generals.

Switching back to the coming World Cup, Menotti hammered home the seriousness of his four-year-task. "The only way to compete against European teams is to concentrate on the individual technical superiority of Argentine over European players. I think that once and for all Argentina must really use all its soccer experience.

"The only way we can build up a prestige image for our football is through the National team. This time the AFA has a great responsibility because if we fail only we will be responsible."

will be kept out

top 12 join the 20 Metropolitan sides to compete in the annual national championships. "What I am doing is long-term watching of the players, trying to have direct contact with them and to see how they adapt in the teams and develop outside the teams as individuals."

His interior selection, formed this year, has already played a tournament in Brazil and will represent Argentina in the Pan-American Games in Mexico next October, and in the Montreal Olympics in 1976. It may also represent Argentina in the South American Championship in July or August.

The interior players are semi-amateur, most are part-timers with jobs as the clubs cannot afford to pay them enough to make them financially independent.

Menotti's junior team, however, will include professionals from the Metropolitan League as well as promising youngsters from the interior. Among its stars will be 19 year olds already experienced in the first division . . . Independiente's Daniel Bertoni and Boca Junior's Marcelo Trovlani and Alberto Cesar Tarantini.

The juniors go to Europe this month for an eight-nation tournament in Toulon, France. The programme for the full national side includes two matches against Uruguay on July 8 and 18, and Menotti says he will announce the squad in mid-June.

For 1976 he plans two more eight or nine-match European tours in March and August/September . . . one against East European countries, the other in the west. The 1976 squad will be chosen from the three teams now under his scrutiny and Menotti says he hopes it will form the basis of his World Cup team.

Triumph f
West Ha

by LESLIE VERNON

NO football season in which Derby County and West Ham United win the major honours can be wholly bad. Not forgetting Aston Villa's League Cup plus promotion triumph — another team who strive to be entertaining as well as successful.

In the recent past, our coaches were able to defend their isolationism with such trite excuses, that our players were not capable of imitating the Brazilians, Germans or the Dutch. We were told endlessly that the long, relentless slog of our season required a different kind of a footballer. We have no room for peacocks — only for sparrows. Artisans are better suited to the playing fields of England than the artists!

Rejection of foreign playing patterns and idelogy cost us dearly in European and World Cup competitions. But now the examples of Derby and especially West Ham must be followed even more boldly by other club managements. At Derby, Dave Mackay, wisely, continued to develop the team on the lines initiated by Brian Clough.

A solid defence, marshalled by the remarkable Colin Todd, was given the task to defend without much visible help from the rest of the team. No sweeper behind the back-four or immediately in front of it, no "ball-winner" at midfield! Thus Rioch and Gemmill could take-up constructive forward positions without any guilt-complex, and up-front, the eccentricities of Roger Davies were actually encouraged instead of ridiculed and curtailed.

Fulfilment

A short while ago, I wrote in this magazine that a manifestly successful West Ham side would be good for British football. But I must confess that I didn't expect such a dramatically swift fulfilment of that pious wish.

The Greenwood-Lyall partnership has certainly got its priorities right — ball-control, accuracy in passing intelligent running, utilizing the flanks, encouraging youth.

It is no accident that the Cup Final was the cleanest, most sporting on record. An equal share of the credit must go to Fulham — these London clubs gave an object lesson to their less well-behavel brethren north of Watford in how the game should be played. Although the top prizes went to Derby and the Hammers, several other clubs helped to raise the general standards.

I would like to single out Ipswich for special praise. They are like the Leeds United of the late sixties — always the bridesmaids, never the brides. But their time must come. Bobby Robson and his refreshingly enterprising side deserve some silverware to crown their excellent football.

Leeds still have the strongest squad of players in England. Why, oh why don't they learn at long last how to behave? McKenzie sent-off in Budapest, McQueen k.o's Clares in Barcelona, fisticuffs against non-leaguers Wimbledon — if this is the way to Paradise, include me out!

As the entertainment value of the matches improved, the crowds began to flock back to the stadiums. Sixty thousand people at a Second Division match, 39,000 at Norwich (!), 24,000 at Charlton! The rest of Europe must be green with envy looking at these figures, yet we are constantly told that football faces financial ruin in this country.

Structure

For heavens sake, why? Who's minding the store? Something must be radically wrong with either the wage structure or the administrative costing of the game. They had better call in some commercial advisers to run the clubs — if they can't make ends meet in the semi-boom, what will happen when there is a slump?

Chelsea, of course, is in a class of its own. While it is good to see clubs like Manchester United and Aston Villa with such crowd potential back in the First Division, it is a tragedy for an ambitious big-city outfit to be relegated. Bill Oddie, the T.V. comedian, said that he used to be a Chelsea supporter, but when they sold Osgood and Hudson, he realised that they were not interested in football, and so he got rid of his season ticket!

I wonder who the real comedians are? The Goodies, or the gents who picked a 17-years old full back instead of Johnny Hollins against Tottenham for a vital match to be played in front of 52,000 people?

But let's get back to football (there is no room here for private grief!) and to my contention that the British-style game is approaching yet another renaissance. There were signs in the World Cup that, basically physical football allied with a modicum of originality, was coming into fashion. All three medal-winning countries displayed a great deal of mental and physical toughness, speed of thought and abundant running ability.

The "plus factor" in their make-up has been the presence of some — very few — world class players. But as Beckenbauer, Cruyff, Muller and Deyna fade into mediocrity, there are no heir apparents to step into their shoes. World standards are hitting an all-time low, and from the idealists' point of view, it is sad to see Wales doing the double over Hungary, and N. Ireland beating Yugoslavia.

So in the land of the blind, one-eyed England might soon become King. The great twin dangers threatening the popularity of football are still the over-emphasis on results, and fear.

Scoreline

As Cruyff said in a T.V. interview, people tend to judge everything and everybody by the stark simplicity of a scoreline. "If we play reasonably well for 89 minutes, but our goalkeeper makes one mistake and we lost 1-0, the papers write that we are all idiots, our manager should be sacked, and changes must be made in the team. Playing exactly the same way, we could win 1-0 because the opposing goalkeeper made a single error. Then we would all be great players, our coach a master tactician."

Cruyff speaks for all Spanish players when he complains about their ill-informed Press. But the climate of football is not significantly different over here either. Possession is fast becoming more important than scoring goals, and it is a cardinal sin to give the ball away. "Fear" (an over-exploited, but appropriate word) of making a mistake ruined much of the Cup Final.

for Derby and m is welcome

The West Ham players were pushing the ball around instead of hitting a risky long ball to a winger or a through ball to chase. When they realised that mere caution doesn't win Finals, they pushed Paddon forward and began to utilize their excellent left-sided players (Lampard, Paddon, Brooking, Holland) in attacking positions, and the match took on a different complexion.

I am speaking of the Wembley match, simply because it was a perfect demonstration of the two-sided coin of possession football. It it is used indiscriminately as a shield of cowardice, it becomes a bore. But if it is exploited skillfully and played with imagination, then it becomes an attractive ingredient of the "total football" I would like to see introduced in our domestic game.

The saddest aspect of the past season's football has been the lack of discipline on and off the field. As I wouldn't waste time on the social disease which goes under the disguise of football hooliganism, let's concentrate on the players' non-existent moral standards. Dissent, arguments, V-signs to crowds, fists flying in the faces of opponents and in the direction of referees, walls which are always less than 10 yards away, phoney dives in the penalty box, are just a few eyesores which have become part of any fully-fledged pro. footballer's repertoire.

Fouling

Tactical fouling is accepted as part and parcel of the game — "he had no option" says the T.V. commentator glibly. (I wonder how Mr. Coleman would feel if he was bodychecked by a beefy thug when running at 50 m.p.h.?) This is, of course, an absolute disgrace. Our referees are much too lenient, tolerant, or just plain gutless.

From the bottom-slapping Gordon Hill ('one of the boys') to the trigger-happy Clive Thomas ('book 'em all, the long and the short and the tall!') the refs. must be given fresh instructions. From next season, all forms of dissent should bring forth caution, tactical fouling must be punished by instant dismissal.

Referees

UEFA referees follow this practice, why can't we? And the refs. must be backed by the F.A. and the F.L. The appeal system must be abolished. The referees' decisions are final in all matters.

How can an Independent Tribunal change a verdict? Our present disciplinary system is a sick joke — it is devised to protect the thugs, the cheats, the loudmouthed spivs and the unscrupulous club managers.

We must come up with something vastly better, otherwise the improvement in our football won't be maintained, and no self-respecting child will let his father go and watch such an unseemly spectacle . . .

The Derby County players parade the Football League championship trophy at the County Ground.

EUROPE BECOMES VICIOUS CIRCLE

by

BRIAN GLANVILLE

NOT for the first time, but a little more insistently, one must ask, do we really need the European Championship? One is prompted, above all, by the experience of Cyprus; Cyprus at Wembley, a pathetically inadequate team, bent only on keeping down the score, Cyprus in Limassol, playing on a pitch which was an insult to international football.

It may perhaps seem a little unfair to make Cyprus the stalking horse. Its manager, the amiable, Durante-esque Avraamides, did after all, when he came to London, say that Cyprus had no real business to be there; that there should be a qualifying tournament for teams like his. Quite true, but no qualifying tournament in the world could, on any rational basis, qualify for any serious game the pitch England had to play on in Limassol.

I walked across it twice, after the tedious game was over. It was a wilderness of alternating sand patches, coarse clumps of grass, earth. As one England defender remarked, it was impossible to know whether or not the ball would run, or how, at any given moment, it was going to bounce. I am not concerned with excusing the England side for its barely mediocre performance. That it was in any case a poor team was amply shown six days later in Belfast, when it was lucky to escape defeat by the Irish; but that is not the point at issue.

The truth is that Cyprus, like Malta, has *no* pitches worthy to receive an international football match, and that neither country, till it has, is entitled to participate in the championship or in the still more significant World Cup.

Decent pitch

This may seem harsh; a double bind, as the psychoanalysts have it; a Catch 22, in the terms of Joseph Heller. A little country like these two can't have international tournament football until it produces a decent pitch, and it can't produce a decent pitch because its climate won't let it. Short of FIFA permitting the use of artificial turf, that seems to be that; unless such countries play all their matches away, which would make them still less competitive than they are today.

The Cypriots, after all, *are* hard to beat in the wasteland of Limassol or on the concrete fields of Nicosia; the Maltese *did* contrive to beat Greece 2-0. But the fact is that both UEFA and FIFA, those deeply unsatisfactory bodies, have been far too lenient and slapdash about playing conditions. That countries like Cyprus and Malta should be barely of international standard, into the bargain, is surely adding insult to injury.

Meanwhile, play them one must in the World and European Championship. The World Cup is beyond doubt the most important of all competitions. Indeed, it has been most pleasing to see how comfortably it has retained its prestige, despite the growth of the European tournaments, the South American, Liberators' Cup (as it was), the horribly ill-conceived Intercontinental Championship.

The European Championship is another thing again, even if, on its last manifestation in 1972, it gave us a glorious winner in West Germany, whose team was certainly much stronger and more attractive than the World Cup winners, two years later.

This time, however, it has become only too evident that the atmosphere is one of after the Lord Mayor's Show. Teams which had geared themselves to a physical and moral pitch which made them outstanding in the World Cup have this

Spot the ball! Kevin Keegan (out of picture) has headed goalwards and (left to right) Tommy Jackson, Pat Rice, Pat Jennings, Chris Nichol, Dave Watson, Malcolm MacDonald and Allan Hunter, get in on the action. It looks as if Jennings is about to sit on it.

season laboured in the championship, desperately in need of time to recuperate. Jan Tomaszewski, the Polish goalkeeper whom Pele (Brian Clough please note) calls the best in the world, actually said as much, when the Poles were labouring last autumn. They were all, he admitted, thoroughly sick of football. Who could blame them?

Yet with the World Cup over, the European teams were plunged with barely a pause into the competition. No wonder there were so many jaded performances, no wonder there were so many bizarre surprises; not least the draw forced by little Iceland against East Germany in Magdeburg; East Germany, who had actually beaten the West Germans that June, in Hamburg!

The case of West Germany themselves is somewhat, though not entirely, different, while in that very difference resides an important reason for questioning the championship. This difference lay in the fact that, the World Cup over, no fewer than three leading members of the winning team, Gerd Muller, Wolfgang Overath and Jurgen Grabowski, announced that they would never play for their country again. To be quite accurate, Muller did promise to play in a friendly against Switzerland the following September, but subsequently went back on his decision.

All three players made it clear that they had had enough of travelling and training camps, that they wanted — especially Muller — to spend more time with their families. Enough was enough. Meanwhile, the subsequent form of Franz Beckenhauer, Uli Hoeness and others was a clear sign that they had had too much football and insufficient rest; even if this had something to do with the demands made upon them by their club, Bayern Munich.

Gobbled up

The championship then, has become a tiresome necessity for the best footballing countries in Europe; those which (with deference to England) reached the finals of the World Cup. It starts far, far too soon after that competition ends, and it goes on far too long. Note that the World Cup itself, though it takes place every four years, in fact, for the last, successful 16, eats up two of those years. The other two are now gobbled up, for European countries at least, by the championship. It is just too much.

Too much, above all, because club competition has now become so frenetically important at European level, a veritable lifeline for many clubs, now that costs have shot so high (players such as Muller and Beckenbauer cost Bayern some £25,000 a year in salary and bonuses. In Italy, £30,000 a year is no unusual salary for a star).

When the European Nations Cup was initiated in 1958 — the British countries did not, very wisely, take part in it — club competition had not remotely reached the pitch it has today. Demands on players have grown, in those 17 years, until they are all but intolerable. The circle is a vicious one. The higher salaries and bonuses go, the more money clubs need from European and domestic competition.

Meanwhile, such tournaments as the re-named European Championship have devalued the friendly international, once so important and attractive, and been a considerable factor in the humiliation of the British International Championship; now stuck as a limp coda at the end of every season.

Sheer irony

Matters are exacerbated when, as this year, a powerful team such as Leeds United, full of current international players, gets to the European Cup Final. Scotland automatically lost half their team: by a sheer irony, Gordon McQueen was able to play for them only and precisely because he was suspended from the European Cup Final!

Friendly games are now little more than a tiresome, marginal exercise, forever subject to the suspicion that certain key players are not giving of their best. One can cite England's wins at Wembley against Austria — a meaningless 7-0 in 1973 — and more recently, West Germany's; Portugal's bad defeat in Switzerland, immediately before coming to draw, in our friend the Nations Cup, at Wembley. Gone are the great days of the classic friendly; the 2-2 draw with Austria in 1951, the 6-3 thrashing by Hungary, the 4-2 win of 1956, over Brazil; all at Wembley.

Is it really worth remaining in the Nations Cup? Or could it perhaps not be made a smaller, exclusively knock-out, tournament?

The call for the Cup Winners' Cup to follow a home and away pattern, in the fashion of the UEFA Cup, is not unexpected. Last year, when Magdeburg beat Milan in Rotterdam, there were no more than 5,000 spectators. In Basel this year, when Dynamo Kiev ran rings around Ferencvaros, there were only a few thousand more.

Had it not been for the experience of the previous final, it would have been easy to say that these were two Iron Curtain teams, which could not bring their own supporters. (Can you imagine how Switzerland would have reacted to twenty or thirty thousand attempted defections from those happy lands?) True, Magdeburg too are an Iron Curtain team, but Milan are not; and Milan's fans are usually among the most passionately committed in Europe.

Dangerous

Brian Mears, the chairman of Chelsea, reminded me, in flight to Belfast, that when his team played Real Madrid in the final in Athens four years ago, no fewer than 45,000 watched them. Clearly it is dangerous to generalise. Wembley was packed when West Ham United beat Munich 1660 in the 1965 final; but then it was a London team playing on a London ground.

I seem to remember a substantial crowd in Rotterdam, when I watched Spurs, in 1963, thrash Atletico Madrid 5-1 and thus become the first English team to win one of the three European trophies. There were plenty in Barcelona to see Rangers win in 1972. Indeed there were.

Clearly, though, things cannot be left to go on as they are, for the Cup Winners' Cup is being devalued. Or is it? Would it not be more correct to say that it is merely being brought into line with reality? The truth is that it is almost as synthetic an affair as the UEFA, nee the Fairs, Cup. Sir Stanley Rous, one of the pioneers of the tournament, used to say to one when he was F.A. Secretary that one of its objects was precisely to encourage cup competitions in the various European countries, which seems pretty logical until you think about it.

After all, if fans, such as the Italians, prefer league to cup football, what does it matter? And they do, for some unfathomable reason, which may be available to a psychoanalyst but is certainly obscure to me. Italians adore the Campionato but take virtually no interest at all in la Coppa.

Well rooted

This pattern is repeated in most of the Iron Curtain countries. Only in Britain, France and Spain is the Cup really well rooted. Which inevitably means that while some of the contestants for the Cup Winners' Cup have come through the hard way, others have merely won a half-baked competition which is of curiously little interest to anyone in their country, despite the fact that it carries a European qualification.

This, in turn, partly because those very fans who care so little for their native Cup care proportionately little for the Cup Winners' tournament. As for the UEFA Cup, Italian clubs by and large have snubbed it, though Juventus and Naples have taken it seriously (rather too seriously, in the second case) from time time.

One possible compromise to revitalise the Cup Winners' Cup final would be to make it still a one-legged affair, but one played on the grounds of one or other of the contestants. This has, after all, happened on such occasions as 1965. On the other hand, to make it a two-legged final would be no breach with tradition, for this is precisely how it started. Rangers indeed, had the honour of being the first beaten finalists, when Fiorentina defeated them after matches in Glasgow and Florence, in 1961.

More spectators, more money, would be the manifest result, and though, as some will know, I am not in favour of the two-legged tie at any stage of any of these competitions, I feel this might be the exception which proves the rule. If the Cup Winners' Cup is to continue — and the British clubs will certainly want it to do so — it must surely come to a proper annual conclusion, rather than to such a resounding anticlimax.

AN HONOUR—NOT A JOY!

says Jean-March Guillou of France

ANDRE DUCLOS—FROM PARIS

A 2-0 defeat at home by waning Portugal, a goalless draw away to Iceland. Thus ingloriously did the French international team finish the season; even if they could (somewhat meagrely) console themselves that after all, the East Germans had actually been held at home by little Iceland.

So the question of Kovacs arises again; a major international manager or simply a clever, charming publicist? As you will know by now, people tend to divide into two camps. It now seems—though things may have changed by the time you read this—that he will be staying with us at least until the turn of the year, subject to the usual vetoes and lifting of vetoes by the highly capricious Rumanian Football Federation.

Criticism focused on Kovacs particularly over the Bereta incident during the unhappy Portuguese game. Georges Bereta had, in the general concensus, being playing extremely well, better and more wholeheartedly than any other French player; and as captain, too. Suddenly, Kovacs pulled him off, substituting the untried Mariot, whom he had been describing only days before as not yet ready for international football. It certainly seemed a peculiar aberration.

Contribution

Kovacs insists that in any case his true contribution to French football does not lie merely in the achievements, or lack of them, of the international team, but in the work he has done with the clubs, trailing round the country from one to another.

Kovacs did make the quite valid point that picking, or not picking, the Saint Etienne players (none of whom appeared against Portugal, since the European Cup semi-finals were under way) was beside the point.

The strength of Saint Etienne, he said, resided in its team work and its high morale, rather than in individual prowess. Besides, two of the key players were foreign: Curkovic, the Yugoslav goalkeeper, and Piazza, the Argentinian centre-half. He feels that it is important not to indulge the Saint Etienne players overmuch in such respects, recalling that in Holland, where he coached Ajax, it was only the 1974 World Cup which at last put country ahead of clubs and gave the national team full status.

Motivated

But he believes that Saint Etienne are just about the only French club of the moment whose players can carry more than two or three ideas in their heads at a time. He also feels that French international players would be more strongly motivated were they offered bigger bonuses in cash. He may be right.

Meanwhile his critics have attacked him over the training camps he holds before each match, alleging that there are too many of them and that they are not necessary for professionals who are already in training for most of the year. It has even been said that Serge Chiesa, the talented little Lyon player who walked out on Kovacs for just such reasons earlier in the year, may have been right.

Even the placid Jean-March Guillou, best French footballer of the moment, a precious midfield man, has been recorded as saying: "For me, to be chosen for France is an honour but not a joy." However often Kovacs has been around the clubs, preaching the gospel of total football, he does not seem to have the players with him as he did in the recent past. And that dropped point in Iceland means that we have little chance of surviving into the quarter-finals of the Nations Cup. Iceland, true, must play in France, as must Belgium in the last match of all, but France must also play away to East Germany.

Suspended

Short and not altogether sweet has been the stay in France of the two Brazilian international forwards, Jairzinho and Paulo Cesar, each now heavily suspended for "a reprehensible attitude to the corps of referees". Paulo Cesar is expected to be back in Rio playing for Fluminense next season, but if Marseilles get most of their money back, I don't suppose they'll mind. They have, after all, got the excellent, conscientious Bereta.

Lens, the little Northern club who did so well in the Cup last season, will be losing two Poles this summer, but hope to enrol another one. The two who are certainly on their way are Faber and Gregorczyk. The one who may come is the excellent Ruch Chorzow striker, the veteran Polish international, Marks. Lens have strong Polish connections and hope to break through the barrier which seems to have arisen since Gadocha was allowed to slip through the Iron Curtain to Nantes. Like good Communists patriots, practically all the other Polish World Cup players would like to follow him to earn a little hard currency, too.

Established

Paris Saint-Germaine also have a star player on the way: none other than the Benfica and Portugal stopper Humberto, who played so well for Portugal at Wembley last November, and again for Portugal in Paris, in April. Paris S-G, swopping places with Paris FC in the First Division and buying half a dozen of their players for good measure, seem to have established themselves at last with the Parisian public, thanks in no small measure to a fine Cup run. There is plenty of talent in the side, not least in the shape of another excellent Yugoslav goalkeeper, Pantelic; one of those who came from Paris FC.

The team, under the aegis of Just Fontaine, who still holds the World Cup scoring record with 13 goals in Sweden, 1958, started off playing the offside game, with conspicuous lack of success. Fontaine changed, as they say, and things quickly got better. The Parisian public, as we know, are success snobs. If Paris S-G can go on winning next season, and Humberto will be joined, if they get their way, by the French internationals Guillou and Jodar, then we might have a powerful team in Paris again for the first time for years. That could only be good and stimulating for the French game at large.

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ERIC BATTY — a long-time admirer of West Ham

SUCCESS IS RE
TEN YEARS OF

WEST HAM'S FA Cup success, in my opinion, is the reward for ten years of consistently trying to produce good football that will attract the crowds. If they failed to show their magic at Wembley, this was partly due to the fact that since Christmas they have had so many injuries that John Lyall has never been able to train with a full squad.

What was a bit disappointing was the failure of Trevor Brooking to get a grip on the game and demonstrate his wide range of skills and his superb vision, but this is the one flaw in Brooking's make-up. When he is at his best there isn't an inside forward in the country to match him, but somehow his temperament just will not allow consistency.

It was never a great final — I find FA Cup Finals very rarely are, and have to go back to 1948 for the Manchester United - Blackpool game for a really memorable one that was closely followed by the Blackpool - Bolton game. But with the Cup going to West Ham, I find it re-assuring that the odds are not completely stacked against those that believe truly in the important things about football and not just the result.

It was nice to see West Ham succeed, instead of the hard-working, defensive, kicking and fighting teams that have dominated the honours (apart from Sanderland in the Cup and Derby County twice in the League) during the last ten years.

The best West Ham Cup tie this season that I saw (and I didn't see them all) was the match against Queens Park Rangers in the mud of Upton Park. Without wishing to knock Fulham in any way, this was a game that would have graced Wembley.

Expected

Similarly, there have been West Ham sides in other years that have deserved success of some kind and ended up with nothing. In particular I recall their run in the League Cup that ended at Old Trafford — a marathon four game semi-final with Stoke, and the season when they had Pop Robson and Ted McDougall getting goals. They moved so well at times that they were desperately close to a place in the UEFA Cup. Then somehow things went wrong and when everyone expected West Ham to mount a real championship challenge the following year they ended with a fight against relegation.

Of course, they missed Pop Robson. He was a silly man to have left, though it is understandable if his family were homesick for the North East, but it was a great pity he had to go.

Even so, I find, looking back that even in their seasons of battling against relegation, I enjoyed watching them far more than the present team which has not been together long enough for the players to have acquired what Ron Greenwood and John Lyall refer to as "good habits".

One of the biggest problems that West Ham had to overcome was the England success in the 1966 World Cup. Their World Cup heroes became acclimatised to the big-time; to the Wembley scene with the Queen watching and all the perks in the way of advertising, etc, that go the way of the big names. Back in claret and blue shirts they were never able to muster the enthusiasm for league matches against run of the mill teams and when it came to Cup ties against Third and Fourth Division sides there was a really noticeable lack of interest.

From a human point of view it was all very easy to understand. Who could get gee-ed up about a Cup game at Stockport or Port Vale after they had seen it all with England?

But Ron Greenwood accepted it and

West Ham United goalkeeper Mervyn Day safely collects the ball from John Mitchell of Fulham during the 1975 FA Cup Final.

West Ham United — salutes the F.A. Cup winners

REWARD FOR F HARD WORK

let things take their natural course. I would personally have had a good clear out when I saw and felt the attitude of the stars that also had a bad effect on the younger players. I don't think John Lyall would have swallowed it. This perhaps is the big difference between Ron and John. Ron Greenwood is very philosophical about results, believing that it will all come right in good time. I share that belief when all my players give 100% and results don't come — but I'd have been in there dropping people and telling the press why — if I had been him.

John Lyall has been brought up as a coach by Ron Greenwood and their relationship in a football sense is very much of father and son. But I believe that John is more down to earth, less philosophical and more like me by nature. He wants 100% effort now and every day from everyone. And he doesn't like losing and lets the players know it.

There's been a lot of confusion about the present relationship between Messrs Greenwood and Lyall. In fact Ron is still very active behind the scenes though John picks the team and has the last word. There is of course no other way to give a man a job, but Ron is still there playing a vital part in all that goes on.

The second West Ham goal, scored by Alan Taylor.

Knowledge

John Lyall took over right at the start of the season though it wasn't leaked to the press until several weeks later. I was myself away when it became common knowledge for after being in Germany for the World Cup I came home and worked for a while before going off on holiday for a month.

Before I left I saw a Texaco Cup match between West Ham and Orient and came away convinced that if they didn't do something quick there was going to be another battle against relegation that would probably have proved fatal. At that time they just did not have the front men to do the necessary job.

Ron Greenwood realised it, too, and while I was away he was out shopping. The result was three new front players, Billy Jennings from Watford, Keith Robson from Newcastle and Alan Taylor from Rochdale.

Though they lacked the gloss and consistently good football of previous years Robson and Jennings provided the necessary punch to see them through a couple of purple patches that made thoughts of relegation a joke. Indeed if Billy Bonds and Robson had not sustained serious injuries they would certainly have ended much further up the Division 1 table than they did.

Bonds came back for the Cup matches, often with pain killing drugs and had barely trained in the second half of the season. It showed in his performances but amongst the West Ham players their new captain is regarded as something of a talisman. When Billy's there he leads from the front, driving, demanding and making the others play in a way that Bobby Moore never did.

Perhaps the turning point in West Ham's fortunes came one day when Bobby Moore made a fatal mistake that led to a goal. For the first time ever, I saw Frank Lampard go over to him and give him a real mouthful. After that the younger players seemed to view Moore and his unflappable calm that is also a blend of aloofness, in an entirely different light.

I should make it clear perhaps that I am not a West Ham fan. I was brought up by my father as a Charlton Athletic supporter but once I was old enough to realise how the world goes round I smartly deserted them to go awandering in search of my kind of football. In the 1950's this only came from the best of the continentals and this started me off on many trips abroad to watch the big clubs and the big names.

With a completely open mind, but addicted to what I call real football as distinct from the game I call 'fight-ball' which is now the English game, and at which they are World Champions, Ron Greenwood arrived at West Ham and within a couple of years I became converted. Here was a man I could respect. This was the kind of football I could enjoy. And I am sure I was not alone.

Over the years since then, people the length and breadth of the country have agreed: "Yes, West Ham play nice football and are entertaining BUT . . ." Now there is no but, they won the Cup, even if it didn't come in one of their vintage years. I regard it as a success for past efforts, for keeping the flag of real football flying in England all the lean years.

● Continued on page 49

Magdeburg hold off Zeiss bid

OVER the last few years, Dynamo Dresden, 1st FC Magdeburg and FC Carl Zeiss Jena have stood out in the East German game that has developed so quickly — progress underlined by the fact that in last year's World Cup the DDR were the only team to beat the eventual winners, West Germany.

In the campaign just ended, Dynamo Dresden were pegged back by the recurrence of an old knee injury sustained by their star and midfield general Hans-Jurgen Kraische who is still not fit, while injuries also hampered the other two main contenders.

Jena were without centre forward Peter Ducke for most of the season (and missed him badly) while Magdeburg were more fortunate to have their international inside forward Jurgen Sparwasser recover quickly from a cartilage operation and play again in the 20th round of matches.

Dynamo fell back early on, leaving the championship to be settled between Magdeburg and Zeiss and after 20 games only goals difference separated the two teams who held a nine point lead over Dynamo Dresden in third place. Then suddenly things swung in favour of Magdeburg and over the last six games they clinched their claim to their third championship success in four years.

In the 21st round FC Hansa Rostock staved off the threat of relegation temporarily when star centre forward Joachim Streich scored the only goal of the game at home to Dynamo Dresden on a day when both the big guns won. Zeiss at home to Vorwarts Stralsund won 3-0 with Peter Ducke making a second half appearance as substitute but showing ill effects afterwards and not playing again in the championship. Magdeburg watched at home by 25,000 beat Wismut Aue 4-2 with Jurgen Pommerenke scoring twice and Jurgen Sparwasser getting another.

Rocket shot

From then on things began to go wrong for Zeiss who crashed 0-2 away to Stahl Riesa — both goals scored by Bernd Runge while bottom club Vorwarts Stralsund entertained the top club Magdeburg who pulled in only 8,000. Vorwarts scored first with a rocket-like shot from 25 yards by Klaus Wulst but Magdeburg's young international winger Axel Tyll scored a second half equaliser that put Magdeburg a point ahead of Zeiss.

Three days later, with the East Germans playing midweek games for three weeks to complete their programme, the scales tipped even further in Magdeburg's favour. At home to Stralsund, who had just beaten Zeiss, Magdeburg had all the play before 32,000, hammered in 32 shots and won 1-0 with Tyll again the man who clinched the points.

Meanwhile, Zeiss, at home to Vorwarts Frankfurt were struggling. Everyone knew they were going through a bad patch and the gate fell to only 8,000 and to make matters worse, Zeiss were beaten 0-1. This left Magdeburg with three games to play and three points in hand.

Following Zeiss's fixture again, Magdeburg were next away to Vorwarts in Frankfurt where they played inside forward Jurgen Pommerenke (First Division top scorer at that stage) as their libero . . . and drew 0-0. The same day, Zeiss were away to Dynamo Dresden, always a hard game even without Kreische and a crowd of 33,000 turned out to see the locals win a prestige game by the handsome margin of 4-0.

Theory

This was virtually the end of it all but in theory Zeiss could still have recovered for in their penultimate game they were away to Magdeburg where they had to win by a handsome margin to stand any chance at all. A crowd of 40,000, the biggest of the championship, saw the battle of the giants and Zeiss's midfield player Dietmar Sengewald put the visitors ahead just before the break with his first goal of the season. Two minutes into the second half and Martin Hoffman got one back for Magdeburg and it all ended 1-1 with the title going to Magdeburg.

In the final round, Magdeburg underlined their overall supremacy by drawing 1-1 away to Dynamo Dresden (before 33,000) with Hoffman again the scorer while Zeiss, deserted by their fans, attracted only 5,000 who saw them beat FC Karl Marx Stadt 3-0.

Lokomotive Leipzig, who unusually for them, were in serious relegation trouble at one stage recovered well with Henning Frenzel their star. Picking up seven points out of the last ten they finished in a comfortable position and fittingly, on the last day of the campaign away to Chemie Halle where they won 2-0, it was their old internationals Frenzel and Wolfram Lowe who got the goals.

The final run in to the title in Czechoslovakia is an exciting one though at the half way mark there seemed little doubt that Slovan Bratislava would retain the trophy they won last season. In the second half of the campaign Slovan have slipped somewhat and fine winning runs by their neighbours Internacional and the Prague club Bohemians have closed the gap.

Slovan have a far superior goal average if it comes to that and with two matches left to play have a point advantage too, which virtually means two points. However, it could hardly be a closer finish.

Slip back

With six games left Inter seemed to slip back when they crashed 0-3 away to Slavia in Prague where the same week-end Bohemians maintained their challenge with a 4-1 win over neighbours Sparta . . . watched by 14,000. Dukla crashed 3-6 away to VSS Kosice without star goalkeeper Ivo Viktor and his stand-in 20 years old Jaroslav Netolicka had a stinker. Dukla's internationals, Miroslav Gajdusek (2) and Zdenek Nehoda scored goals that would assuredly have brought points had Viktor been on duty.

But the real winners of the week-end were Slovan, at home at Tehelne Pole where they hammered lowly Nitra 7-1. Left winger Jan Capkovic scored three, Ivan Pekarik (2), Jan Svehlik and Marian Masny completed the rout. On other fronts newly promoted LIAZ Jablonec gave their survival hopes a boost by drawing 0-0 away to highly placed Brno and Spartak Trnava, the top team for seven years and now fallen on hard times went down 1-2 at home to Zilina for whom it was the first away win of the season.

For Spartak Trnava boss Anton Malatinsky worse was to follow for in consecutive games they went on to lose 0-1 away to Trinac: and 0-2 at home to neighbours (30 miles away) Inter to find themselves only two points above the relegation places.

Then the slide was halted at the expense of Josef Masport the Dukla boss when Trnava travelled to Prague and win 2-1. They got off to a great start with Vaclav Samak putting through his own goal in the first minute and almost at once Trnava went 2-0 up through Tibor Jancula. In the second half Dukla fought back and with only seven minutes left

East European review

Zdenek Nshoda clipped their lead to 1-2. Trnava survived those last minutes but the struggle isn't over yet . . .and Malatinsky's reputation as a magician is still at stake.

There was trouble of an unusual kind at Nitra where Sparta Prague, playing for their place in the top flight were leading 2-1 (both goals scored by stopper Oldrich Urban) when someone in the crowd threw a piece of rock and hit a linesman. The referee abandoned the match, leaving Sparta 3-0 winners under FA regulations and in their next game they faced the needle game with arch enemies Slavia!

Sparta fans have not been too keen to see their team beaten and crowds at their ground at Latna have been very disappointing this season. But the annual battle that goes back to the 1890's brought out 30,000 to see a game that Sparta had to win. Slavia, nearer the top of the table than the bottom were favourites before the game but as usual in Sparta-Slavia derbies, it was the underdogs that won.

The Sparta hero was Vaclav Jiras, signed during the winter from Divlsion II Kladna (now bossed by former Sparta manager Karel Kolsky).

In their previous home game Jiras came on as a substitute in the 87th minute and immediately scored the winning goal: 2-1 against VSS Kosice. Again Jiras came on as a substitute against Slavia but this time the game had barely started and he scored both goals — one in each half.

Meanwhile Slovan soldiered on, beaten 2-3 at Pilzen where stopper Jan Capkovic was sent off for disputing a penalty that decided the game; beating Jablonec 1-0 in which Capkovic's twin brother Jozef got the only goal and then winning 4-2 away to Zilina where Jan Svehlik got a hat trick and Masny got the other goal.

In front

With three games left to play, 1974 champions Ruch Chorzow are firmly out in front, champions with points to spare over the second club Stal Mielec. When it really counted Ruch were untouchable winning two consecutive away games 2-1 in Bytom against Szombierki and 2-0 away to newly promoted GKS Tychy.

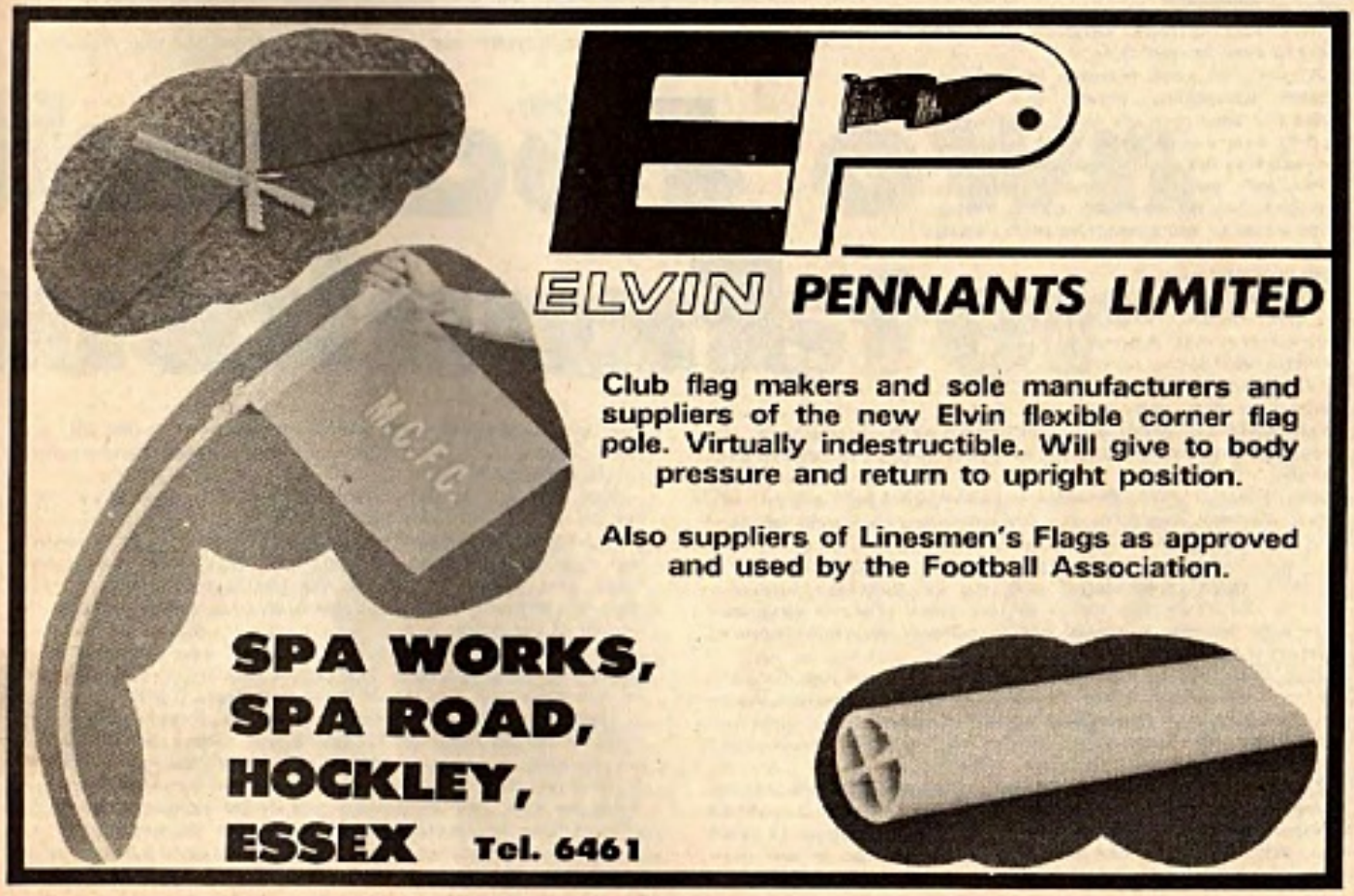
Then, with an unassailable lead they slipped up away to lowly ROW Rybnik who beat them 2-1 and for whom those two precious points will probably mean survival. With the title in their pockets Ruch began giving reserves a game and in their last game as we go to press, they were held to a 1-1 draw by Slask Wroclaw.

Stal Mislec are indisputable Poland's number two club but they went down 1-2 away to Lech Poznan after Jan Domarski had scored a fourth minute goal and were held to 2-2 at home by Gornik Zabrze. The scorers in this game were in order . . . Domarski, Banas (who played against England in Chorzow), Domarski and Szarmach, all well known figures.

One game later and Wlodzimierz Lubanski scored his fifth goal in a 3-2 win over Wisla Krakow in Zabbre that produced some fine football. Banas, Lubanski and Szarmach were the scorers . . . while Wisla are an excellent team that have been hard hit by lengthy absences through injury to their star forwards Kapka and Kmiecik.

Legia are clearly going to suffer without Kazimierz Deyna next season. At home to Stal they went down 0-1, the goal scored by Domarski and then Stal were held to 1-1 at home by Pogon Szecin with Lato the scorer. That same day Legia's Warsaw neighbours Gwardia who have collapsed this season played a critical home game against ROW. Gwardia, in 15th place out of 16 trailed behind Rybnik by three points and had to win . . . but could only draw 0-0 and now seem booked for the drop.

Ruch's pulling power is clearly in the number of potential goalscorers they have in their side. For Stal, Grzegorz Lato tops the scorers with 16 while Jan Domarski shared third place with 13. But Rush have Joachim Mark (14), Bronislaw Bula (13), Jan Benigier (10) and Jozef Kopicera with eight.



KEIR RADNEDGE reports from Paris on the European Cup Final

THE 20th Champions' Cup Final couldn't have been a greater disaster if UEFA had sent in official saboteurs. It was supposed to be THE big occasion — not just with all the personalities there, leading politicians, even di Stefano and Puskas — but it was meant to carve with pride the fact that the competition had been founded in that same city 20 years before.

Yet originally, ironically, Paris had been outsiders for the game. The West Germans wanted it as part of the DFB's 75th anniversary celebrations. Problems over television and advertising put paid to that.

The result was that the Parc des Princes — with its miserable pitch and mere 50,000 capacity — got the game. The way it turned out, Gabriel Hanot must have done a double somersault in his grave.

Hanot was the competition's mentor. Yet his old paper, *L'Equipe*, could hardly have chosen what emerged as a more untimely moment to press for a world club championship featuring the European semi-finalists, the South American finalists, and the African and Asian champions.

The final was an advert for nothing — merely a warning of the horrible consequences of a Jekyll and Hyde competition which has arguably become too big, too important, too valuable, too powerful. Football's own Frankenstein monster.

Leeds had to win: and because they didn't their fans wrecked the place. Bayern had to win: and that they did so can't gloss over the fact that they're not the team of a year ago. If anything, it merely brought back to life Paul van Himst's comment when Leeds beat Anderlecht in the quarter finals.

"Leeds can win the trophy because there is no outstanding team. The rest of Europe has come down to the second-best level, the level of the English champions. Leeds are two players short of greatness, but this is a bad year and they may be good enough."

Bad year it most certainly was, and on the day Leeds weren't even second class.

And it's no good blaming the referee, Michel Kitabdjian, either; that won't make the hooligans go away; that won't lead us back to the times when attacking football was the only weapon which paid.

No, let's put the digressions and the hysterics behind us, and try to bring some order to our memories of the Paris holocaust. And there are five points I want to emphasise:

(1) And most important: When will so many people who ought to know better learn that possession is not nine points of the law in soccer?

(2) If you'd been manager of Bayern, losing two key men inside the first 17 minutes (Uli Hoeness was a passenger until the 40th), would you have tried to come out and play pretty-pretty football? Really?

(3) Whether Billy Bremner was interfering with play or not when Lorimer struck in the 66th minute, the Leeds skipper was in the Bayern goalmouth and, whether you like the law or not, Kitabdjian was justified in ruling out the "goal".

(4) I gather television fought shy of switching from the play to the disgusting scenes in the crowd. Take it from me, they were horrific, a virtual non-stop assault from the moment Lorimer's shot was ruled out.

(5) Last, but by no means least, as they say, take a bow Dettmar Cramer. He looks more like you'd imagine a Gnome of Zurich than a world-class soccer manager, but if any one man won the game for Bayern, it was this 50-year-old academic.

On past standards of course, the match was diabolical — no comparison with the Reims-Real Madrid clash which got the competition off the ground in the old Parc des Princes 19 years ago. But it will be remembered for two things, it will even earn a place in soccer's folk-lore.

First, for the behaviour — or lack of it — of the Leeds "fans" and secondly for the much-underplayed demonstration of sheer character from the West Germans.

To lose Bjoern Andersson after four minutes, the man set to mark Bremner. To lose Hoeness after 40, a key man in any counter-attack situation, was nothing short of catastrophic.

Yet the cool rapport Cramer has built up in a mere four months since he replaced Udo Lattek, made itself felt on the pitch immediately.

New facet

Jupp Kapellmann was brilliantly tireless in defence. And he still had the pace in the 82nd minute to make Gerd Müller's goal. Müller himself showed us a new facet of his ability with a remarkable artisan's performance in midfield and defence. It was his chip forward to Conny Torstensson which led to Franz Roth's 72nd minute goal.

(Cramer: "If we could use Müller in midfield all the time, we would. But we don't have another centre-forward like that.")

And Sepp Weiss, only 23, with five league games to his name, hounded Bremner mercilessly.

(Cramer: "In terms of experience, it was like father and son.")

I gather that English television was seething about Sepp Maier before the game, and grudgingly admiring afterwards. But Ivan Curkovic of St Etienne rates him the best in the world and we saw why at the Parc.

(Cramer: "There is no such thing as a weak game for Maier — except this last time at Wembley. For his club team he plays every game like the one tonight.")

Klaus Wunder was a revelation up front too and if Torstensson was anonymous and Roth took an hour to get into the game, Rainer Zobel was a surprise in his purely defensive role sitting on Allan Clarke.

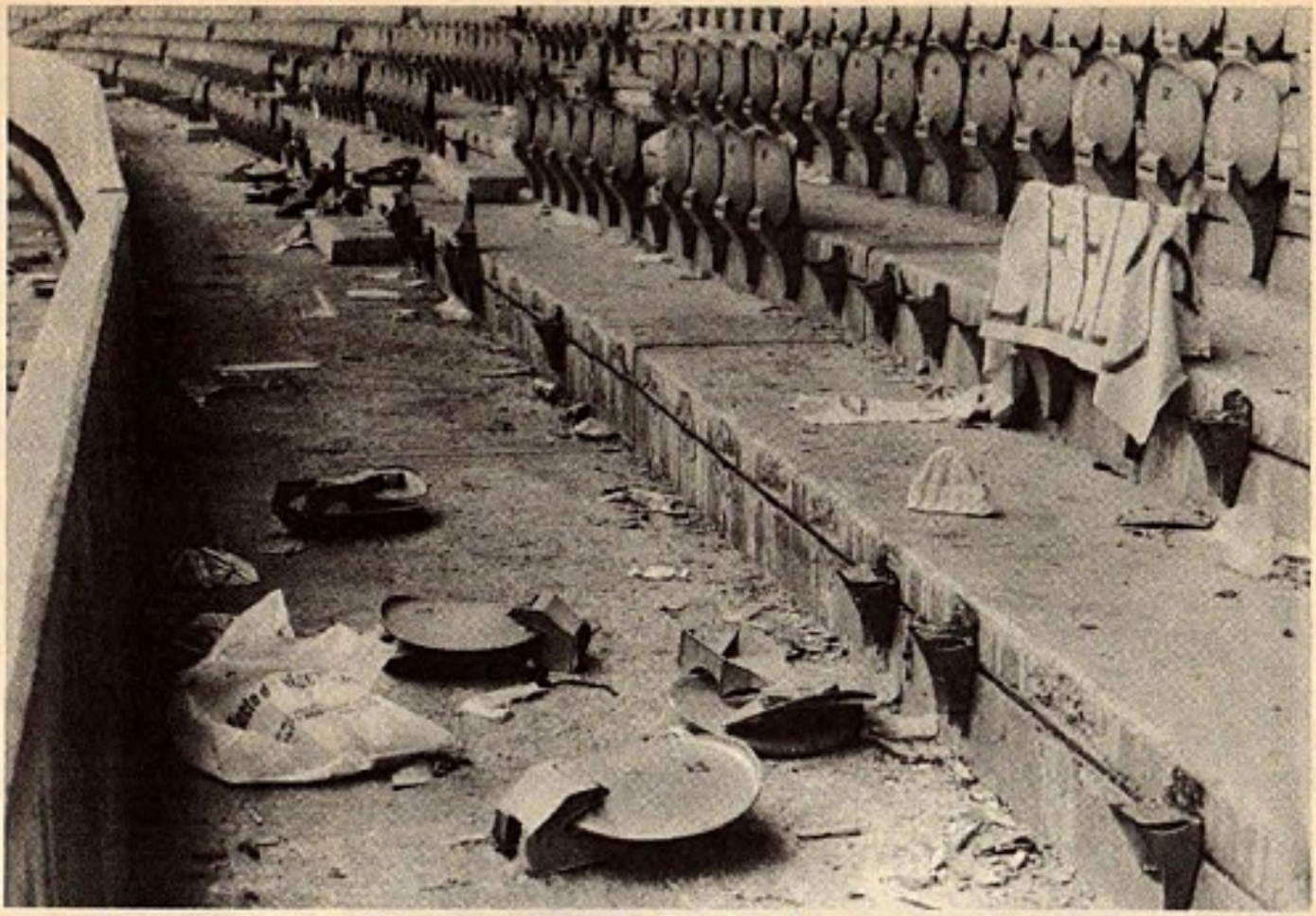
Football Frankens

And with Joe Jordan winning everything in the air, Zobel's success was of particular importance.

Did Franz Beckenbauer bring down Clarke? English opinion was emphatic; German opinion was that Clarke took a dive. I felt that Clarke anticipated the challenge a little, and that was just enough to allow Kitabdjian to give the defence the benefit of the doubt.

Leeds claimed hands by Beckenbauer as well, after Peter Lorimer jinked through. Kitabdjian thought it unintentional, or was unsighted. You could argue both ways.

Then there were the bookings: Paul Reaney after eight minutes for fouling the robust Weiss; Georg Schwarzenbeck for hacking down Joe Jordan (24th); and Norman Hunter on Kapellman (84th). Schwarzenbeck also had some luck — apart from the fact that he won the ball in the air only once. In the 58th minute he brought down Jordan for the umpteenth time and as Kitabdjian ran over to the trouble spot he reached his hand into his back pocket for the yellow card. Realising



It looks like a battlefield but it is just a section of the Parc des Princes stadium after some Leeds United supporters had been at work.

faces its own stein monster

suddenly that "Katsche" was the culprit, and the card would have to be a red one, he contented himself with a ticking-off.

Frankie Gray was lucky to escape a late booking for a wild kick at Wunder, and Wunder was lucky that he jumped high enough to escape a double broken leg.

Leeds' boss Jimmy Armfield admitted afterwards that the "Olde English" tactic of aiming perpetually for Jordan's head was planned, and he thought that the run of play justified it. Leeds certainly had most of the game, but so did Real Madrid against Inter-Milan in 1964, and various other teams since. It makes no difference. The team which wins is the team which scores more goals — and aesthetics matter nothing to the teams involved at this level.

I don't hold the view that you must expect top professional footballers to play without regard to the rewards of victory. How could you? It's a vicious circle. And Cramer betrayed the merest fraction of annoyance when asked if he would equate Bayern with Inter. He replied that Inter played cautiously as a policy; Bayern had played defensively because just on this one night circumstances had forced that kind of approach on them.

"Leeds played just as we expected," he said. Would the inclusion of Eddie Gray from the start have made the difference, I wonder?

Lorimer was Leeds' best player for me, getting through plenty of work and raising the fans hopes with some typical shooting. But Bremner was below par — and that was where Leeds lost out. Bayern sat hard on Bremner, the same tactics Leeds had tried to adopt to stifle Beckenbauer. Without success.

Kaiser Franz was the man of the match — showing us again, if we ever doubted it, that he is not just an attacking player, but a man who knows how to defend and organise his co-defenders to perfection.

(Cramer: "If there's a need to fight, he will fight. If he has space to play, he will play. It's all the same.")

And it was Beckenbauer who saved Bayern in the dying moments of the first half with a beautifully-timed tackle on Clarke when Lorimer seemed to have played him clear for a run-in on goal.

● *Continued on page 38*

THE m
BECAM

Franz Beckenbauer holds the European Cup aloft after Bayern Munich's victory over Leeds in Paris.

Confrontation! Billy Bremner comes face to
Joe Jordan attempti

Bayern goalkeeper Sepp Maier makes a point blank save from Leeds skipper Billy Bremner.

Leeds players celebrate aft
allowed a

IGHT A DREAM
ME A NIGHTMARE

face with Bayern's Gerd Muller with
ng to intervene.

Bayern's Andersson rolls in agony after his third minute clash with Yorath. Beckenbauer and Muller look on.

er Peter Lorimer (left) had netted. But the effort was dis-
nd sparked off trouble on the terraces.

Detter Cramer looks on as his team, Bayern, win the European Cup.

BORUSSIA WIN UEFA CUP FINAL

Double triumph for West German clubs says ARTHUR ROTMIL

THE TOAST of Germany are Bayern Munich and Borussia Mönchengladbach, the country's most consistently successful teams over the past seven years. While Bayern repeated last year's triumph by retaining the European Champions Cup, Borussia completed a rare "double" of winning the championship and the UEFA Cup. Thus two of the three major European competitions have been won by West German clubs. This is further proof of the strength of football in the country whose national side are the reigning world and European champions.

Borussia Moenchengladbach goal-scoring Jupp Heynkes holds the UEFA Cup aloft.

Now German clubs have established themselves as the leading ones in Europe. Last season they collected the coveted European Cup for the first time and now Gladbach became the first German side to annex the UEFA trophy. The supremacy of these two clubs has also been emphasised on the domestic front by the fact that since 1969 they have shared the championship of the Bundesliga between them!

Four titles

Since the 1.FC Nürnberg triumphed in 1968, Bayern took four titles (1969, 1972, 1973 and 1974), and Borussia three (1970, 1971 and 1975).

But right in the middle of celebration came the sad announcement that manager Hennes Weisweiler, who has turned Borussia from a "village club" into a world-class side, is leaving Mönchengladbach! Weisweiler, 55, one of the most famous and successful coaches the country has produced, simply could not refuse a generous and lucrative offer from the former Spanish champions Barcelona, who parted company with their Dutch manager Rinus Michels. Weisweiler was earning with Borussia just over £30,000 a year — Barcelona will pay him £110,000 for a two-year contract!

Popular

And so, after 11 years crowned gloriously with the aforementioned "double", the popular Hennes has left the club at its peak. His place has been surprisingly taken by Udo Lattek, 40, the former coach of Bayern Munich, whom he left on New Year's Day. It will be interesting to see if the departure of Weisweiler makes much difference to the side, above all whether Lattek can carry on the highly successful programme of spotting and developing youngsters, which was one of the features of Weisweiler's reign in Mönchengladbach.

Players like the World Cup stars Vogts, Bonhof, Wimmer and Heynckes, goalkeeper Kleff, midfielder Danner and the two Danish strikers Jensen and Simonsen, were all engaged by Weisweiler. His tactical deployment was instrumental in Borussia's triumph in the two-legged UEFA Cup final, which was indeed one of the most remarkable in the history of the competition.

First of all, the club switched the home tie from their small Bökelberg ground (capacity 35,000), to the neighbouring, twice as large World Cup stadium at Düsseldorf (capacity 70,000). In the event, 45,000 fans, including thousands of visiting Dutch supporters, turned out to see Borussia, deprived of their injured top scorer Jupp Heynckes, struggle to a 0-0 draw.

Victory

FC Twente, one of the most improved sides in Europe over the past couple of seasons, seemed set for victory, but it was a different story in the return at Enschede. The Germans, now with the recovered Heynckes, stormed boldly into the attack, scored twice within the first ten minutes and ran out worthy winners by 5-1! Heynckes celebrated his return with a hat-trick, whilst the irrepressible Simonsen scored twice. It was the highest away win ever recorded in the final of this tournament.

Strangely though, on the night of their first international success, Borussia's management disclosed a meagre financial reward from the UEFA Cup run. According to the club's business manager Helmut Grasshoff, the average

Heynkes second goal beats Twente goalkeeper Volkmar Gross and defender Niels Overweg.

home gate did not even reach the 20,000 mark(!) and the net profit hardly exceeded £10,000. But this figure did not include the win bonuses for players, estimated at a total of £33,000. But Borussia should not worry too much, for in the previous season they registered a record profit amounting to precisely £33,000! And next term they are hopeful of cashing in on the European Champions Cup.

Clinched

In the championship the Mönchengladbacher clinched their third title, thanks to a long and consistent run of 17 games without defeat. This represents a new *Bundesliga* record, the previous best series was established by Bayern Munich last season, when they remained undefeated in 15 matches.

Borussia's fine sequence began with a 1-1 draw against Hertha Berlin and curiously enough it was ended by the same team, who incidentally were their closest rivals in the title race at the time. Before a crowd of 84,108 (the season's record), at the Olympic stadium in Berlin, Hertha won by 2-1, both goals coming from their Swiss international striker Kudi Müller.

But a 3-1 away win at Schalke settled the issue and secured the championship for Borussia. It has in fact been their strength in away matches which helped them to remain on top. It was all in all a marvellous season for the club who, like Bayern Munich, are also celebrating currently the 75th anniversary of their foundation.

Assured

As I write, the next placed Eintracht Frankfurt (who have also reached the Cup final), Hertha and Hamburger SV, were already assured of UEFA Cup participation next season, while the fourth place should have gone to either Cologne, Fortuna Düsseldorf or Kickers Offenbach.

These three clubs have been relegated: VfB Stuttgart, who have been in the *Bundesliga* since its inception in 1963, Tennis Borussia (Berlin), who only lasted one season in the upper sphere, and Wuppertaler SV, who only managed to stay three years in the top bracket. Two former members of the Bundesliga, Karlsruher SC and Hannover "96", having won the championship of the Second Division South and North respectively, gained promotion, whilst the third club to move up will be determined from the play-off between the runners-up of the two leagues.

For the national side this has been a strange season of disappointing performances, yet not entirely unsuccessful. The World Cup victory has, inevitably, led to complacency among some of the stars, loss of form with others, coupled of course with the withdrawal of such heroes as Müller, Overath and Grabowski. The record of two wins (v. Switzerland 2-1, Malta 1-0), three draws (v. Greece 2-2, Bulgaria 1-1, Holland 1-1) and one defeat (v. England 0-2), was by their own high standards, relatively poor.

Completed

On the other hand, the Germans having completed all their away fixtures in the European Championship qualifying group VIII, collected four points and with three home ties against Greece, Bulgaria and Malta to play, look odds-on favourites to reach the quarter-finals.

Their last competitive match against Bulgaria in Sofia (1-1) featured the return of their Spanish mercenaries Günter Netzer and Paul Breitner. Both did quite well, considering the circumstances and the foul weather conditions.

The fact that they needed time to readjust to their colleagues and to the rather different rhythm must also be taken into account. The comeback of Breitner created great interest and was a direct result of secretive, behind the scenes discussions between the player and manager Schön.

Breitner was alleged to have sworn after the World Cup final, that he would never again play for the national team "as long as some officials are still with the Football Federation". Asked to make a public apology before being considered, Breitner sent the DFB a telegramme confirming the conversation he has had with Schön and this earned him the "reprieve"!

They clinch third league title after 17 games without defeat

Netzer's reappearance is partly due to the shortage of international class schemers, particularly since Overath too, has "retired" from the side. It may well be — Real Madrid permitting! — that the blond Günter will make his mark on the European Championship, just as he did so brilliantly three years ago. Both Breitner and Netzer apparently know the future programme of the national side off by heart, and are keeping their fingers crossed that it will not clash with their club commitments in Spain.

Introduced

Although since the World Cup final manager Schön has introduced no fewer than eight new caps (Seel, Pirrung, Korbel, Dietz, Seliger, Ritschel, Nickel and Kostedde), the Germans still have problems, not least because some leading players are getting old.

The match v. Holland was a prestige friendly organised to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the German FA (DFB). A crowd of 53,000 turned up at the Waldstadion in Frankfurt, hoping to see a repeat of the World Cup final.

But, alas, only five members of West Germany's winning side were present, while the Dutch, too, were without six of their finalists, so that on both sides one could sense the lack of motivation. The only winners were the DFB, who collected nearly £200,000 in gate receipts!

World Soccer's roving columnist Paul

THE first country to win the World Cup, Uruguay, is now better known as the world's leading exporter of soccer talent. With some 200 Uruguayan professionals playing abroad in Europe or Latin America it's no wonder that Montevideo newspapers dub this exodus "the country's leading industry". The smallest of the South American republics and one of the least populated (about three million inhabitants), Uruguay nevertheless has an astonishing record in international competition. Two World Cup championships and seven South American championships gained by the national team and four Libertadores trophies won by top teams Nacional and Penarol. Overall this is a better record than neighbouring Brazil can boast.

But signs have been appearing lately to indicate that Uruguayan soccer is not all it used to be. Uruguay barely qualified for last year's World Cup after a shock home defeat against Colombia and put up a very disappointing show in West Germany. Penarol and Nacional are no longer the forces they were and Uruguay is, for once, not represented in the semi-finals of this year's Copa Libertadores.

The problems which have suddenly struck Uruguayan football are economic ones. The comparatively affluent nation which used to be known as "the Switzerland of South America" has fallen on hard times which have immediately been felt on the soccer field. There just is not enough money to support professional soccer in such a small country.

Uruguay, however, continues to produce large numbers of good players — who are immediately snapped up by Spanish, Brazilian, Mexican or Argentine clubs.

Rocha, Ancheta and Forlan play in Brazil, Mazurkiewicz, Montero Castillo and Espurrago are in Spain and Pavoni, Jauregui and Cardaccio are with Argentine clubs, to name but a few of the country's top players. Practically the whole of the Uruguayan World Cup side is playing abroad.

Pedro Rocha—one of the Uruguayans playing in Brazil.

Gone too are the days when top players from abroad, like Chile's Elias Figueroa or Argentina's Luis Artima, played in Montevideo. Uruguay can no longer afford such stars, the traffic is now all in the opposite direction.

The best player of the 1975 season, Liverpool's Denis Milar will be appearing for Granada in Spain from July and offers will inevitably be made for the new batch of promising Uruguayan youngsters like Daniel Bartolotta, of Defensor, and Dario Pereyra of Nacional, both 18-year-olds.

Uruguay's big star of the moment, Penarol centre-forward Fernando Morena, would also doubtless be playing abroad if any club could afford the one million dollars asking price.

Nowadays only players from "the big two" — Penarol and Nacional — are full-time pros. Of the four Montevideo divisions, all of 12 teams, only the first two are semi-professional — the rest are amateur.

Still, this leaves Montevideo with 24 professional or semi-pro teams, an incredibly high number for a city of one million or so inhabitants. Small wonder that many have severe financial problems.

In some ways it is the Montevideo clubs' own short-sightedness which has contributed to what one could call, without exaggeration, the Uruguayan soccer crisis.

For years Montevideo has resisted all attempts to form a proper national league. At present each of Uruguay's 18 states has its own local league with the champions of each playing off at the end of the season to find the "champion of the interior". At this level, of course, there is little room for professionalism and the "champion of the interior" has no chance of reaching the Copa Libertadores.

Since Montevideo teams jealously guard their superiority, it is the chant-

Where men kno

PARAQUAY? Where on earth is that, would be the natural reaction of the average European soccer fan. On an atlas Paraguay is a country in the centre of South America consisting mainly of swamps and with a population of about two million. But on the soccer map Paraguay should be something more.

Considering its size Paraguay has probably produced more outstanding players than any other country in the world, with the exception of Uruguay. But while Uruguay tends to produce brilliant ball-playing midfield men, Paraguay is a factory of goal-scorers.

Paraguayans acknowledge that their players are technically not as good as many South Americans, but they do know how to run, to shoot and to score.

They can point to some pretty convincing examples. The best Paraguayan player of all time, Arsenio Enrico, was top goalscorer in Argentina for three successive years between 1937 and 1939 while with Independiente and his total of 47 goals in 1938 is still an Argentine record. Duilio Benitez of Flamengo was chief marksman in Rio de Janeiro in 1952. Cayetano Re became top scorer with Barcelona in Spain ten years later and, more recently, Eladio Zarate was top of the goal charts in Chile from 1968 to 1970 in the colours of Union Espanola.

Paraguay, like Uruguay, is a great exporter of soccer players, but, unlike Uruguay, it has always been so. The country is poor and professionalism as such does not exist.

Nowadays the best players tend to end up in Spain. Saturnino Arrua, who played in the last South American selection against Europe, is with Real Zarragoza and is considered to be among the best foreign players in Spain.

National side

Also in Spain are three other members of the national side — Escobar, Insfran and Ortiz, while Bareiro is with River Plate in Argentina. But the most famous Paraguayan export is not a player but a manager, the renowned HH2 of Italy, Heriberto Herrera. Former Juventus manager, HH2 is now looking for a new post in Italy.

Paraguayan league soccer is hardly among the best in the continent and is little more than a shop window for managers from the rest of South America or from Spain. Nevertheless, Olimpia did reach the final of the first-ever Copa Libertadores back in 1960 and also put up a good performance against Argentine teams in this year's first round matches.

Olimpia and Cerro Porteno are the big teams of Paraguayan soccer, Cerro being the most popular but Olimpia having the greater financial backing. While most clubs can barely afford to pay their players more than bonuses for winning matches many Olimpia and Cerro Porteno men have proper contracts and are really full-time pros. Nevertheless professionalism is still not recognised by the Paraguayan football Association.

Other clubs exist mainly thanks to the backing of wealthy patrons so it is not surprising that Olimpia and Cerro Porteno dominate the Paraguayan game. In the last 20 years only one other club, Guarani, has won the championship, gaining the title in 1964 and 1967.

At present it is Cerro Porteno who lead the way, having gained their third successive championship last year. A lot of their success comes from the inspiration of midfield players, Juvencio

Radford visits Uruguay and Paraguay

EXPORT IS THEIR BUSINESS

pion of the Montevideo league which is considered Urugsuayan champion. But Montevideo's main reason for resistance to a national league is purely selfish. At present the Montevideo clubs draw heavily on the talent of the clubs from the interior. Naturally they get these players free because they are amateurs, but if there was a national professional league, then . . . they would have to pay transfer fees, etc.

It is ironic that Uruguay has no national league because it is not only the smallest of the South American republics but the one with the least transport difficulties. Any part of the country can be reached by road from Montevideo within a few hours. Compare that with Peru or Colombia, for example, where there are huge distances to be covered and the towering Andes mountain range to be taken into account.

So there is really no excuse for Uruguay's not having a national league — though many people say the same is true about Britain! There are moves afoot to form a national championship, but the chances are that the interests of the Montevideo clubs will prevail.

But if no improvement can be expected in this respect, there is, at least, a chance that preparations of the national squad will move forward. After the World Cup debacle it was generally agreed that lack of preparation was chiefly responsible.

Uruguay is determined that the same thing will not happen again when the country defends its title in the South American championship later this year. Accordingly the national squad of 26 players is currently training once a week under the eye of new national coach, Carlos Silva Cabrera, who is also technical director of Liverpool. Later in the year training sessions will be increased and friendly matches will be played against Argentina, Chile and Paraguay.

Recently the assistant coach of the Polish World Cup team, Andrezj Strejlau, has been in Uruguay at the invitation of the football association to give a course for trainers. Strejlau was astonished at the interest taken in his course. Practically all the trainers of the Montevideo teams attended, a sure sign that Uruguay is determined not to fall back and become a second-rate soccer power.

Whether the new knowledge learned will affect the standard of the Montevideo league is still uncertain. The league has received something of a boost lately by the challenge of Liverpool who this season have the chance of ousting Penarol and Nacional from the championship for the first time ever, but the overall standard is still low.

The league is as complicated as usual this year. Each of the 12 clubs will play each other twice. The league will then split into two groups of six from which six teams will emerge for the play-off for the title. At the end of the first round Liverpool were unbeaten, one point ahead of Penarol and six in front of Nacional.

Whether Liverpool will stay the course depends on that same Uruguayan problem — the export syndrome. Star forward Denis Milar leaves for Spain in mid-season. Will Liverpool be the same without him?

ow how to score!

Osorio and Carlos Jara Saguier.

But Cerro seem to have faded a little this season. In their Copa Libertadores matches they picked up just one point in six games and at the end of the first round of the Paraguayan league trail by three points.

I watched Cerro Porteno recently at Asuncion's Defensores de Chaco Studium and went away most unimpressed by the team. But their fans are among the noisiest in South America, setting off a veritable barrage of fireworks when the team scores a goal. On this occasion the fans went away disappointed. Cerro led 2-1 until two minutes from time but two silly defensive errors cost them their first league defeat of the season at the hands of River Plate.

River Plate, themselves undefeated, lead the championship but only three points separate the top five teams and Olimpia, Libertad and Sportivo Luqueno are also contending the title. The ten teams in the league must play each other three times each for a total of 27 matches.

The Paraguayan league is not a national affair, comprising only teams from the Asuncion area. Of the ten in the league nine are from Asuncion and the tenth, Sportivo Luqueno, is from Luque, about ten miles from the capital. Amateur leagues operate in the remoter areas of Paraguay.

Although severely weakened by having its best players abroad, Paraguay is seriously preparing for this year's South American Championship and confidently expects to win its group, which includes Colombia and Ecuador. The confidence may be misplaced because I would rate all these countries in the same class and anyone of them could qualify.

Training

Under former Guarani and Olimpia trainer, Jose Maria Rodriguez, the national team is currently training twice a week together. Later the championship will be suspended and the squad will train together full-time. The fact that Rodriguez's appointment is a full-time one shows how serious Paraguay is.

In 1953 Paraguay won the South American Championship in Peru, beating Brazil in a play-off and there are many people in Asuncion hoping for a return to the glory of the fifties. For it was in the qualifying matches for the 1958 World Cup that Paraguay gained its greatest victory of all time, a 5-0 drubbing of Uruguay, and qualification for the finals in Sweden.

Since then the world has heard little of Paraguayan soccer, a fact which must distress the country's president, Alfredo Stroessner, a former soccer player himself. (Incidentally, President Stroessner's son-in-law, Humberto Dominguez, is president of the Paraguayan league.)

Paraguayan champions since 1950

1950 — Cerro Porteno
1951 — Sportivo Luqueno
1952 — President Hayes
1953 — Sportivo Luqueno
1954 — Cerro Porteno
1955 — Libertad
1956, 57, 58, 59, 60 — Olimpia
1961 — Cerro Porteno
1962 — Olimpia
1963 — Cerro Porteno
1964 — Guarani
1965 — Olimpia
1966 — Cerro Porteno
1967 — Guarani
1968, 69 — Olimpia
1970 — Cerro Porteno
1971 — Olimpia
1972, 73, 74 — Cerro Porteno

BARCELONA S

Rinus Michels leaves...

moves in... but will Johan

HELENIO HERRARA could be forgiven for laughing his socks off. No doubt he won't, for he's not a man totally without heart, and he has other things on his mind: his own recovery from last year's heart attack; the recent kidnap attempt on his youngest son, Helios; the libel suit taken out by former Roma president Alvaro Marchini.

But if HH did stop for a moment on the night of April 23 to think about pure football, the game, the competition between 22 men over 90 minutes, we could easily understand how the Barcelona - Leeds result might have brought a wry smile — at the very least — to those familiar creased features.

The last time Barcelona fell at the semi-final stage, Herrera was the manager. And the comparisons between then and now are enormous.

In the 1959-60 Champions' Cup semi-finals CFB were drawn against Real Madrid. CFB were slight favourites in many people's minds. They had stormed to the championship the previous season, and experienced though the team was, its average age was below that of Real who were thought to be just over the hill.

Controversy

CFB lost 3-1 in Chamartin, but it wasn't a disaster — with men like Luis Suarez, Sandor Koesis, Zoltan Czibor, Martin Verges, Evaristo de Macedo, Eulogio Martinez and so on in your team you could put goals past anyone.

Yet there was one man at Barcelona around whom controversy reigned: he's now Spain's national team boss, he was then revered as one of the world's greatest forwards: Ladislav Kubala.

A Hungarian who played for both Czechoslovakia and Hungary before seeking exile in Italy and then Spain, Kubala had been the darling of Barcelona for six years until the advent of Herrera in 1958.

Personal dislike, a dispute over bonuses and wide distaste on Kubala's behalf for some of Herrera's training and morale-building ideas, meant that when it came to taking on Real, Kubala was out of the team.

The man who had been mainly responsible for inspiring CFB to three successive championships in the early 1950s, to the double of Cup and League, was reduced to a mere reserve de luxe.

Had CFB beaten Real in that semi-final second leg, Herrera's decision would have been acclaimed a masterstroke, and Kubala would have been quickly looking for somewhere else to guide his magic passes and lethal shots.

Instead, sitting in the stand, he saw CFB dominate the ball, yet taken apart by intelligent counter-attacks and defeated 3-1 again — out 6-2 on aggregate.

There was no forgiveness for Herrera; the Barcelona aficionados were — some, sadly, literally — screaming for his blood. A police guard was needed to see him from the stadium and a couple of days later he quit, taking off for Internazionale of Milan.

And what has all this got to do with Barcelona today?

by Keir Radnedge

No lynch mobs were out chasing Rinus Michels, or Cruyff, or Neeskens, were they? No, they weren't. But once again Barcelona had fallen at a semi-final hurdle because, in many fans' eyes, the manager had let personal preference take precedence over logical sense.

And in this case the name of the player concerned is Hugo Sotil, from Peru. It's not a new story, I've told it here before myself. But in Barcelona now the facts are being gone over by the fans with the superb beauty of men who, as we all can when it comes to talking soccer, fall into a dream of "ifs" and "buts".

And those dreams could yet rebound as a nightmare on CFB's Dutch trio.

CFB signed Sotil from Deportivo Municipal of Lima two years ago when Spain reopened the borders to foreigners. In his first season he played a maximum 34 games and scored 11 goals — taking a major part in steering CFB to their first championship since that season of mixed fortune, 1959-60.

But because Michels saw the opportunity to bring Johan Neeskens from Ajax, the two-foreigners rule meant that someone had to go: Sotil or Cruyff. Of course there was never any doubt: Sotil was dropped from the first team squad and has spent the past season idling away his time.

At first it seemed he might be transferred; then CFB explored the Peru-Spain friendship treaty to see if Sotil could play as a Spaniard under a loophole in the law. Nothing doing. So reluctantly the player agreed to settle back and last out a year becoming a naturalised Spaniard — just as fellow striker Juan Carlos Heredia, an Argentinian, had done while on loan to Elche.

Still Sotil could have been of use to CFB, had the Spanish soccer federation not put their foot down. In the days when Helenio Herrera led Inter-Milan to the European Cup he too was fettered in the Italian League by a two-foreigners clause. In that case, he gave pride of place to Luis Suarez and Jair da Costa and kept first Horst Szymaniak, then Joaquim Peiro, back for the Champions' Cup.

So why didn't Barcelona do this with Sotil? They wanted to. But the two-foreigners clause is different for Spain.

In Italy in the 1960s it was only laid down that a club could not *field* more than two foreigners in a League game; in Spain a club may not *register* more than two foreigners. So, when CFB included Sotil in their lists for the Champions' Cup games, the Spanish federation told them: "Since Sotil is not registered with us, we can't approve his registration for the Champions' Cup."

Anxiety

So Sotil was barred from Europe and CFB were robbed of one man who might have given Leeds just enough extra anxiety to ease CFB into the Final. That's the way many fans are thinking now, anyway, in the shadow of defeat.

Johan Neeskens has scored seven goals in the league — four from penalties — and one in the Champions' Cup, but his form generally has been a little disappointing. True, he had problems settling in, troubles with his new house and so on, and it was unfair of the fans to expect a second Cruyff.

The fans don't blame Neeskens himself, but the ousting of Sotil, the championship slump this season (at the time of writing CFB are fourth) and now Champions' Cup defeat, is a series of disappointments piling up at the door of Michels.

No matter now that he built the CFB team into the side which ran away with the title last season; no matter that he

SHAKE-UP

... Hennes Weisweiler

... Cruyff stay in Spain?

brought Cruyff to Nou Camp; no matter that he gave a sick giant back its pride.

Having achieved all that the success rate must be maintained. Soccer is a vicious circle indeed.

And so Hennes Weisweiler replaces Michels and the older players could soon be going too — Rife, Gallego, Torres, Juan Carlos, perhaps even Carlos Rexach and the unsettled injury-prone Marcial Pina. These have been the artisans providing the backcloth of solidity against which Cruyff and Sotil provided the artistry which for a brief year raised CFB above the teams around them.

Alas, the championship effort can now be seen to have fatally robbed the "old" men of their strength — even the call of the Champions' Cup was not enough to keep the ball rolling and the UEFA Cup will be the stage for Cruyff and Co. next term.

There is one other position in the team in which Michel's judgment is being put to question: Goal.

Again this is a problem I have related before, but again I make no apology for returning to the subject and take no credit for hinting at the trouble which was in store. One friend in Barcelona told me after Leeds' visit: "Our troubles all began with the Cup Final last season. We lost (4-0) to Real Madrid, but Michels was so wrapped up in the World Cup at the time that the lesson was overlooked."

The lesson, as I reported then, was that Salvador Sadurni blundered badly to help Madrid romp away with the match. Sadurni is 34; ten years ago he was a brilliant prospect; a young man of exciting reflexes, sharp and lithe and inspirational.

But like so many goalkeepers of his type, there came a time when the reflexes began to lose their edge, when sheer basic practised technique became more vital, and Sadurni hadn't mastered the technique.

He couldn't give the confidence or command necessary to his defence — Elland Road was an object lesson in his failings — and so spent several years in and out of the first team. Miguel Reina was transferred hastily and in anger on the eve of the championship season and

● *Continued on page 50*

Papua New Guinea hold team trials

IN May trials took place in Lae to select a national Papua New Guinea squad for the South Pacific Games. Papua, Madang, the Highlands, Bougainville, Morobe and the Islands took part. Surprise winners were the Highlands who avenged a recent defeat by Morobe. Papua finished third (writes PAUL HARRIS).

In Guam the opposition will include the British Solomons, Fiji, New Caledonia, Tahiti and the hosts. It is reported that the competition will be unaffected by the Vietnamese refugee problem.

PORT MORESBY

GFC have established themselves as leaders of the Moresby Premier Division despite the set back of a 1-3 defeat by Tarangau. An important result was GFC's 3-2 victory over second placed Munkas. PWD are likely to contend the leadership, but Tarangau remain inconsistent.

Home Farm triumph

THE 1974/75 season in Eire ended in a blaze of glory for the famous amateur club Home Farm. After only three seasons in the top league level they won the Football Association of Ireland cup by soundly beating Ireland's oldest professional outfit, Shelbourne.

Although the final score was only 1-0 in their favour they created, and missed, enough chances to have scored at least another three goals. The result confounded the experts but, on the day, Shelbourne could find no excuses as they were never in the match with a chance at any stage of the proceedings.

Ironically it was those other former great standard bearers of amateurism, Bohemians, who captured most of the season's headlines by winning four of the five trophies available to them: the League championship, the League Cup, the Leinster Senior Cup and the Presidents Cup.

Had it not been for an uncharacteristic defensive error in the FAI Cup game against Cork Hibernians in a second round tie it was quite on the cards that Bohemians would have ....'e a clean sweep of the honours.

Bohemians decided five years ago to turn professional after eighty years soldiering in the amateur ranks. Since that momentous decision was taken they have won every domestic trophy available to them, and some of them twice.

It was a brave decision and one that was not totally popular with some of the die hard members within the clubs ranks. Needless to say, those same critics have remained silent over the past five years as the club went from success to success under the professional banner.

Encourage

However, the big talking point of the season was the failure of a generous sponsorship scheme to encourage clubs to score more goals. Bass, the Beamish and Crawford drink company, poured more than ten thousand pounds into the League and Cup competition but ended up with three goals less being scored in the league championship than the 1973/74 season!

The figures were: 73/74 season, 534 goals; 74/75 season, 531 goals. As 182 matches are played in the league tournament it will be readily seen that less than three goals per game were scored. Perhaps the publicity week by week satisfied the company but they certainly failed to inspire a goal orgy among the fourteen league clubs.

A sensational development occurred in the last week of the season when it was announced that Finn Harps, last season's Cup winners, and one of the most attractive sides in the league, were fined £800 for not paying fines levied on a number of their players and thereby fielding illegal teams in some of their matches.

At first there was the distinct possibility that Harps might pull out of the game altogether but eventually saner counsel prevailed and an appeal has been lodged against the decision. The result of the appeal will be followed with interest.

Another bone of contention is rearing its head on the Eire soccer front and it concerns referees. The last five FAI Cup finals have been handled by Dublin officials and some of the provincial men I have spoken to are getting annoyed and are wondering what they must do to impress the Dublin based headquarters of the Irish Soccer Referees Society. Look out for squalls from this issue to finally come to a head, possibly with serious consequences for the Referees Society.

TONY REID

Brian Glanville

I AM shaking in my shoes waiting, from one moment to the next, for the heavy hand of Nemesis to descend upon me. It is from GUERIN SPORTIVO, the Italian scandal sheet, now published in Bologna and a mite less paranoiac than it was, that I have learned the dreadful come-uppance that awaits me.

Wedded as ever to their conspiracy theory of history — at least so far as regards the history of football — GUERIN SPORTIVO promise staggering revelations about (can you guess?) the Final of the 1966 World Cup. You may also have guessed that these concern THAT GOAL by Geoff Hurst, the vital third (no one seems to remember the fourth) which may or may not have crossed the line.

It seems that an intrepid German cameraman, regardless of danger, pursuit, possible molestation, managed to secure a complete photographic sequence of that goal, a sequence which had been loyally and patriotically destroyed by all good British cameramen.

When the truth comes to light — one trembles in anticipation — it will be shown not only that the goal was not a goal, but that I was acting as the amanuensis of Denis Follows, to the greater glory of himself and the Football Association. Splendid stuff. I cannot wait to see it. There are, of course, certain slight inconsistencies and weaknesses already visible even to an eye as hopelessly jaundiced and prejudiced as mine.

Sequence

In the first place, anyone who wished to examine the photographic sequence of the third English goal could do so to their heart's delight by attending a showing of the official World Cup film, GOAL! which I myself wrote and helped to edit. Indeed, I was able to run the sequence time and time again through a moviola, and examine it, not merely in slow motion, but by stopping the images at will.

Was it a goal? It appeared to me then that it was, but the question still seems to me a vexed one. Roger Hunt, who stood bang in front of goal at the time, raised his arms in delight as the shot bounced down from the bar, and made no attempt to tap the ball over the line to make certain, something he could so easily have done.

But certainty is, alas, something which I do not think we ever shall achieve over this goal. It is, I suppose, somewhat flattering to me to think that GUERIN SPORTIVO should believe that I had anything to do with foisting this fraud upon the world. I shall be intrigued to learn in what sinister, Machiavellian way I found the means and leverage to do so.

But the Italian reaction to the Lobo-Solti affair mounted by Keith Botsford and myself in the SUNDAY TIMES, which has now had the case reopened by UEFA a second time, has often been much more psychotic than that. What is truth? asked the Italian sporting Press, and stayed not for an answer. Just as well. So hopelessly compromised are these pathetically corrupt and partisan gentlemen that they would not recognise it were it to be thrust before their very, inquisitive (up to a point) noses.

For far too long have they pursued the main chance, compromised with fact and skulduggery, twisted evidence, ignored chicanery, licked the boots of the big Presidents and their rich henchmen, for a glimmer of objectivity to remain.

Wheeling

Every Italian football journalist of any consequence knows perfectly well that Dezso Szolti, now at long last officially declared persona non grata, by UEFA, was for years wheeling, dealing and bribing on behalf of the major Northern Italian clubs. They also know perfectly well who sent him to try, unsuccessfully this time, to corrupt honest Lobo, in Lisbon, before the Derby County - Juventus semi-final game. So do Botsford and I. So, I would guess, do UEFA.

As things stood last December, when Solti was made non grata and the case officially closed, one had the absurd situation of Solti being punished alone, for an offence which he had presumably committed off his own bat. The idea that he was prepared to offer a referee $5000 and a new car, plus travelling expenses to Turin, purely out of love for Juventus — or, perhaps, to promote the success of a bet — was slightly too bizarre for words.

Meanwhile, Juventus haven't been doing so well in Europe without "Uncle" Solti, whose own, Hungarian, writings about his career in the game bear easy comparison with those of that sublime liar, Baron Munchausen. Four years ago, they played at home in the Fairs Cup to Twente, and won the tie, thanks in no small measure to a remarkable display of refereeing by that famous Spaniard Ortiz de Mendibil, which had the Dutch hopping with rage. This time the referee was the implacable East German, Rudi Glockner, and Twente won, 1-0. QED.

A heartcry from the CORRIERE DELLA SERA, Italy's leading newspaper, but little more honest about the Solti affair than any of the rest, lamented that our investigation now made it impossible for Italo Allodi, secretary of Inter and General Manager of Juventus when Solti was allegedly operating in their interests, to become manager of the Italian international team.

There would, complained that paper, be too great a danger of Allodi and the team being attacked by the Press of those countries which it had to play, and even if Allodi took legal action, the damage would be greater, rather than less.

My heart bleeds for Allodi, and for an Italian national team so badly in need of an overlord with no background whatsoever in the technical management of a club: even if Inyield to no one in my profound admiration for what the lickspittle Italian Press has politely referred to as his "public relations".

By the time you read this, he may have been offered an even more arcanely inexplicable appointment as head of the

'Coaching argun

THE argument about coaching swings back and forth. Allen Wade has poured scorn on English managers whose idea of a morning's work is to sit in their office, chatting on the telephone with journalists.

They should, he sternly insists, be out there five days a week on the practice ground. George Petchey of Orient, one of our outstanding young manager-coaches, would certainly agree with him. Andy Nelson of Charlton would partially agree; there isn't enough, he says, to do in the office anyway. For him, the concept of the "young, tracksuit manager" in itself is, however, a mistaken and destructive one.

Then again, we have Dave Mackay who, having taken Derby County to the Championship, announced that coaching has damaged the game, that *he* as a player (and a very good one, let it be added and admitted) was never coached, that the thing to do is to leave good players alone to get on with it. In his view, the most important facet of a manager's job is transfer policy: the getting together of good players.

Conflicting views, all worthy of attention. Mackay's are reactionary, but not altogether without basis and relevance. Yet they *do* pre-suppose that a manager has money. If he hasn't, then he must develop as many of his own players as he can, and pick up shrewd bargains.

Publicity

Again, while it would be absurd to suppose that a manager has done his job simply by sitting in his office — as the pre-war manager used to do — there is no question that publicity, public relations, is an invaluable part of it. Where Allen Wade is perhaps off target is in his implicit assumption that management,

'For far too long have they pursued the main chance with skulduggery, twisted evidence, ignored chicanery for a glimmer of objectivity to remain'

National Federal Technical Centre at Coverciano, outside Florence. Doubtless this persuasive and plausible man has been hiding from us his profound technical knowledge of the game. But with the Italian sporting Press so whole heartedly, fawningly and mysteriously on his side, one can assume he will at least be given a tolerant time of it.

Antics

Meanwhile, one marvels and rejoiced in the antics of such as my old friend Alberto Marchese of the Rome daily CORRIERE DELLO SPORT, who thundered with splendid rhetoric in the Berlin Press Box last June against those who once used but now denied Solti, those who gave presents of expensive hunting rifles to referees.

Now, in the columns of his paper, he described Botsford and myself as "two rung out bells". Gian Paolo Ormezzano, now editor of TUTTOSPORT, took what for an Italian journalist was quite a bold stand in our favour, a year ago. But with the publication of our new revelations, in March, he talks of smoke without fire: and makes no attempt to rectify it, even when UEFA, choking in the smoke, decided to re-open the inquiry.

As for his cheap suggestion that Allodi and I should confront one another in San Remo, under the auspices of TUTTOSPORT, I need say only that serious investigations must be conducted seriously. While I continue to tremble at the prospect of the revelation of my undivulged crimes, my disgraceful support for Denis Follows, I have the impression that there are those in Italy who are not wholly at ease. With good reason.

The light mindedness of the Italian response to the Solti Investigation is shown by the fact that IL MESSAGGERO of Rome should publish and GUERIN SPORTIVO republish a farrago of an apologia by Helenio Herrera, Inter's manager in the years of the Golden Fix.

Controversial

What about England and 1966, then, cries Herrera, but his poor, failing memory prevents him even from making a case about the ever controversial Final. He has totally invented a "shot" by Haller which came out from the stanchion of the English goal but was disallowed, and talks about the "phoney second goal" by Peters when the sad wretch clearly means the third goal scored by Hurst.

Talking very recently to a much more balanced and honest figure, Dettmar Cramer, Bayern manager now, West German assistant coach then, I heard an immeasurably more objective view. Cramer and I agreed that we should probably never know for certain, even on the basis of German photographic evidence he has seen, whether or not it was a goal. "But it doesn't matter!" said Cramer.

THE MARTINEZ AFFAIR: UEFA's Secretary Hans Bangerter informed me in Barcelona that UEFA's Rules and Competitions Committee is at work on the Martinez Case, but has had a decision pre-empted by the fact that it has been referred to the Spanish courts for judgement.

I'm glad that UEFA's iniquitous 48 hour rule for protests has thus been circumvented. Meanwhile there is a depressing possibility that by the time the Spanish Courts decide whether Martinez's birth certificate was forged, the qualifying competition will be over. Then what will UEFA do? May we know?

ent swings back and forth'

like peace, is indivisible. While somebody is coaching, somebody, and it does not always have to be the same somebody, has to talk to the Press and keep the club's name favourably in the papers.

Before the war, at Arsenal, George Allison, a broadcaster and journalist before he ever became a manager, was consummately good at this. His knowledge of football was sparse to a degree, but he had a splendid right hand man in his trainer, Tom Whittaker, who kept the players fit and happy, while a core of shrewd old pros such as Eddie Hapgood were able to look after tactics. True, things have become much more competitive and professional (Wade's favoured word) since then, but Arsenal under Allison were not exactly a bad team. They won three Championships and the Cup, and were rebuilding to splendid effect with a posse of fine youngsters — Reg Lewis, the Comptons, Gordon Bremner, Horace Cumner — when the war came.

For Mr. Wade, the Germans and Central Europeans are immeasurably better prepared than our own men. Probably true, but there is a tendency nowadays to mistake codification for achievement. There is such a thing as a natural coach, a natural psychologist, a natural tactician. Nor is it inevitable that a good coach will also be a good manager. As often as not he lacks the authority and the detachment. The game is littered with the bones of successful coaches who went off to be managers . . . and failed.

Guarded

Some of the best managers and coaches of today never took an FA coaching badge. Alf Ramsay was one — when are we going to see this immensely competent, guarded man back in club management? Bill Dodgin, the young Northampton Town manager, is another. Wade extols the Notts County manager, Jimmy Sirrel, who has been going to Lilleshall coaching courses for twenty years. This shows admirable devotion to the cause, yet last season I saw a Notts County team at Queens Park Rangers which to me seemed tactically inept, giving Rangers the freedom of the park.

Stefan Kovacs of Rumania — and France — is one who has firmly emphasised the importance of long, thorough preparation for a coach, the kind that he has had himself. Yet Kovacs remains a controversial figure, and I myself find it hard to decide whether he is as good as his admirers would tell us, or as fortunate as his detractors maintain. There are few questions so elusive in football as this; the assessment and evaluation of managing and coaching.

Referee on fraud

ARGENTINA

REFEREE Jorge Alvarez was arrested on charges of poor refereeing after the Argentine (Metropolitan) First Division match between Newell's Old Boys and FC Oeste at Rosario which ended in a 2-2 draw. Visitors FC Oeste had scored the goals in the last eight minutes — the first from a disputed penalty and the second in the final minute after Alvarez had stopped an apparently valid home team attack at the other end.

Newell's fans rioted after the match, injuring five policemen and the referee who was hit in the eye by a stone as he was being led off by police. As a result Alvarez had to have an eye operation and he will not be able to referee again.

But the strange part of this unbelievable incident is that Alvarez was arrested and charged with "sports fraud". Charges had been brought against him by one Newell's fan (and five witnesses) under a law existing in Sante Fe province of which Rosario is the biggest town and a 1978 World Cup venue.

The immediate result was a referees' strike which prevented soccer on the following Sunday, in spite of a week of meetings (also at government level) and pressure on the referees from all sides — including a special request to return to work from the country's president, Isabel de Peron. At press time the strike had ended, although actually the two conditions of the referees' association had not been fully met — the setting free of referee Alvarez (who was under conditional liberty in hospital) and the repeal of the controversial law under which any angry fan can virtually put a referee in jail.

It was an unhappy start to the second half of the championship . . . and it was also unhappy for leaders River Plate, beaten 2-1 by second-placed Estudiantes de La Plata who have thus taken three out of four points from the leaders. Estudiantes are good, but erratic.

The La Plata team beat River Plate for only the second time this season by starting with all-out attack — unusual for them as they never attack with more than two or three men — and Veron headed them one up in the first minute, following a corner and one of those "black-board" moves for which they are famous since their Libertadores Cup hey-day under coach Osvaldo Zubeldia.

Their coach is now Carlos Bilardo who played for them then. Another black-board move brought the winner 19 minutes from the end when a Pagananini free-kick was headed in by Frassoldati just when River were well on top. Estudiantes' close marking and tight defence did the rest.

But River Plate finished the first round with an eight-point lead — a record since professional soccer started in Argentina (1930). River Plate also continue to break attendance records. Ticket sales for most of their games have run over 40,000 (which does not include members who get in with their membership cards) and the club is chiefly responsible for increasing the average ticket sale at First Division matches this season to over 10,000 — the highest average in the last 10 years.

River Plate's power lies in the fact that rivals can't stop the "goal machine" by marking their main scorers, Morete and Alonso — who are second and third respectively in the scorers table with 13 and 12 goals out of the team's 47 in 20 matches. All the forwards can and do score. At the same time, success is giving confidence to a defence which is not on the same level as the attack — except for goalkeeper Fillol.

With 18 matches to go, there seems to be no serious rival in sight for River Plate. Santa Fe's Union, although still sharing second place, have lost their early season impetus and only picked up three points from their last five games. But the other Santa Fe club, Colon, has now extended its unbeaten run to 15 matches — easily the longest in their history.

Yet we have to go down to Huracan, joint fifth with Colon and 11 points behind the leaders, to find the next big club in the table.

The first round ended with another record — eight clubs (nearly half) changed their coaches during the season so far because of poor results. Among those dismissed were Independiente's Roberto Ferreiro and San Lorenzo's Osvaldo Zubeldia whose club's directors seemed to have short memories regarding recent good performances under the same coach. Independiente are Libertadores Cup holders and San Lorenzo national champions.

They always say a manager's reputation — they call them "director tecnico" here — is only as good as his last result.

CHAMPIONSHIP MARRED

THE first match of this year's South American championship between countries — which have not been held since 1967 — is scheduled between Chile and Peru on July 16 in group 2. But the tournament has already been somewhat spoilt — not for the first time — firstly by Argentine coach Menotti's recent declaration that Argentina will probably be represented by a provincial semi-professional selection and secondly by the Brazilian Sports Confederation's announcement that the Minas Gerais State selection will represent Brazil.

Provisional dates for matches are:

Group 1 — 30/7 Venezuela v Argentina in Caracas; 3/8 Venezuela v Brazil in Caracas; 6/8 Brazil v Argentina (no venue fixed); 10/8 Brazil v Venezuela in Porto Alegre; 13/8 Argentina v Venezuela in Buenos Aires; 17/8 Argentina v Brazil (no venue fixed).

Group 2 — 16/7 Chile v Peru (no venue fixed); 20/7 Bolivia v Chile in La Paz; 27/7 Bolivia v Peru in La Paz; 31/7 Peru v Bolivia in Lima; 6/8 Chile v Bolivia in Santiago; 14/8 Peru v Chile (no venue fixed).

Group 3 — No dates fixed at press time between Paraguay, Ecuador and Colombia, but first match is scheduled for July 20th.

The three group winners go into a final round with champions Uruguay.

arrested charges!

ERIC WEIL brings you the news from South America

URUGUAY

THE first half of the opening First Division championship ended with the meeting of the two unbeaten teams — Liverpool and Peñarol. It ended in a 0-0 draw and Liverpool maintained their one-point lead over champions Peñarol — this being the first time for as long as I can remember that a team outside the big two (Peñarol and Nacional) topped the table at the half-way stage.

But with a second championship to come and then a play-off for the title between leading teams, the possibility of an outsider taking the Uruguayan title is as yet far distant.

Peñarol won the first round "classic" against Nacional by 2-1 in spite of being left with 10 men for the last half-hour. After a 0-0 first half, Quevedo put Peñarol ahead (15m), but immediately after team-mate Pizani was sent off. With 10 minutes to go, Pereira equalised from the penalty spot, but then once again World Cup forward Morena got the winner — in the last minute with a "bicycle kick" (called "chilena" here) with his back to the goal.

VENEZUELA

ESTUDIANTES are virtual champions of the first professional league championship of the season, the "Copa Venezuela" — with a seven-point lead and three matches to go at press-time.

But only four points separate the other seven teams in the championship and it's been close all the way. In fact an average of only two goals a game have been scored — exactly 90 in 45 games so far.

Portuguesa, with a game in hand, were in a position to catch up Estudiantes by winning their four remaining games while Estudiantes lose theirs. But Portuguesa would hardly be able to better the leaders' goal average in this defence-orientated championship.

PERU

THE Peruvian championship finally started following a rebellion by provincial clubs who were in danger of losing their First Division status.

The government sports agency (INRED) wanted to reduce the First Division from 22 to 16 clubs — 12 from Lima and four from the provinces — to avoid the huge financial loss suffered by pro soccer last season. The eight provincial First Division clubs, who would have had to play a qualifying competition for the four places, rebelled — one team even went on a hunger strike — and it almost produced a split in Peruvian soccer.

When the air finally cleared and the championship was started with 20 clubs (minus the two relegated clubs), champions Universitario gave a poor performance to lose 3-1 to provincial club Atletico Grau and vice-champions Union Huaral lost 4-1 to another provincial team, Carlos Manucci. In fact, provincial clubs had the better of it against teams from Lima on the first day.

BRAZIL

BRAZIL, looking for a return to their attractive attacking soccer which has brought them three World Cups, have introduced a new rule for the "Copa Brasil" — the national championship in which 42 of the country's best teams, qualifying from state leagues, take part.

In this competition, due to be played from August 20 to December 14, a club winning by more than a two-goal margin will be given three points instead of the usual two for a win.

Meanwhile Fluminense has won the first of three rounds of the Rio de Janeiro (Carioca) championship — the "Copa Guanabara" — giving them a place in the final title play-off. The second round is already under way with Botafogo leading with their five matches won.

In the Sao Paulo State League the virtual first round champions are Sao Paulo.

CHILE
KO CUP FOR THE FIRST TIME

THE "Copa Chile" (with first and second division clubs taking part), started last year with pre-season play in groups before the final, didn't catch on with the fans and was a financial disaster for the clubs.

The Cup has however been more successful this year as a straight two-legged knock-out on dates during the league championship. At press time the quarter finals have been reached and the last eight are all first division teams. Upsets have not been as common as in the English FA Cup.

Meanwhile, after four First Division league games, Green Cross are unbeaten leaders with seven points, while last season's champions and runners-up, Huachipato and Union Española respectively, are a point behind.

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Jimmy is a Case in point

HERE they come. Hundreds of 'em. British soccer has never known anything quite like it. In no other year has it been even remotely possible to list so many exciting new prospects during a close season as it is today.

What's more, according to my inquiries of clubs and ruling associations, they are very definitely youngsters of rising ability, hungry for coaching. Not just kids merely backed by doting club directors eager to obtain proof of the wisdom of their early assessments.

This happy state of affairs must be extremely satisfying to all the folk in authority at differing levels. Particularly because it means that a wonderful reserve for future requirements is now being built up, instead of drying up as the pessimists have been depressingly forecasting.

Some of these teenagers have become slightly known among the enthusiasts in their own special corners of England during the winter we've just put behind us. It is true to say, however, that the vast majority are still merely programme numbers outside of home pitches.

Because of that, I always think it exceptionally interesting to collate the details of a few. Or, to put it another way, add to a personal file which is now bulging while stretching back through the seasons.

So, here's just another name to note when the curtain goes up once more in another couple of months. This time it's Case. Jimmy Case. An easy one for the memory as he becomes the new target for the autograph hunters on the way up to the stars.

This rare character has not spent the years in the moulding business. That's a fact. For it's not much more than twelve months ago since he was shaping a future on a work bench, busily completing an apprenticeship to the electrical world.

Often the boy's thoughts strayed, though always to soccer. Usually to a place rather attractively named Holly Park, which is the home of the non-league game on the Mersey waterfront, and the tough training ground for those with big ideas.

Floodlit

South Liverpool, who claim to have staged Britain's first floodlit fixture when they met a touring and barefooted Nigerian FA team under their own hesitant and experimental lights in the early days of 1949, took Jimmy the Sparks under their wing.

They developed some of the youngster's latent talent in the Northern Premier League. Every game was a stiff test against such clubs as Stafford Rangers, Worksop Town, Morecambe, Scarborough, Bangor City, Buxton, Altrincham, Wigan, Gateshead, Lancaster and so on.

Came the day when Shankly's scouts travelled to the south end of the docks system. They took a look, then spelled out the message in Bill's comfy little den underneath Liverpool's main stand. And in double quick time, the removal men had Jimmy installed at the other end of the town and enjoying the chase with "The Stiffs" after the Central League title.

A year passed, and, shortly after he had celebrated the twentieth milestone, opportunity knocked. There was a passport into the Anfielder's senior squad due to injuries to no less than three of the regulars — Steve Heighway, Ray Kennedy and Phil Boersma.

Up went the team sheet. His name was on it. It was for an end-of-season game which simply had to be won to ensure a European spot again this year. And what do you think? The club's newest and youngest professional schemed a victory with all the aplomb of a veteran.

Of course, the stands and the terraces buzzed. Everybody wanted to know who he was, and why he'd been kept under the wraps so long. Because here was a boy with the Kevin Keegan style, the Roger Hunt finishing power, and the Peter Thompson frame.

Manager Bob Paisley says: "He'd have gone in before but for being plagued by injury, for I've never had any doubts about him." Neither has anybody else who saw him sign on — and off last season with such a tremendous debut.

You need not take that from me. Take it from the star who is going to form a front-running partnership with him next season. Keegan says: "I think young Jimmy is one of the best youngsters to slip into the team during my four years in it, and he's going to be tremendous."

● *Continued from page 25*

So much for the players — Leeds not outplayed, but certainly outmanoeuvred, and all the credit to Cramer.

Now, what about the hooligans?

Cramer was able to shrug the trouble off afterwards: "It happens in every stadium in the world. I wasn't really shocked because this runs through a lot of spheres of life. Not only football."

Jimmy Armfield was in a more tricky position — obviously. He was in a difficult position because had Leeds won, the praise would have been heaped on Don Revie. Asked to comment on the hooliganism at the Press conference afterwards, he was more than diplomatic:

"In England there has been a trend in recent years towards a wave of over enthusiasm. Football in England is a way of life and I think they get emotionally involved. They support from the heart and it's a trend that's been going on for a while. European competitions bring out a lot of spirit in the fans."

You're not kidding! But what a pity, even though he must have had so many other things pressing on his mind, that the Leeds manager couldn't have provided a better immediate lead in condemnation. Particularly after his players had compounded the fracture by saluting their fans in that unfortunate lap of dishonour.

I spent a large chunk of the day being driven around Paris in a car carrying a Bavarian registration, and I didn't see any trouble or become involved in any, thankfully! Certainly I missed seeing anything of the supermarket punch-up.

But I saw what happened in and around the stadium and my immediate reaction, which hasn't changed, was that if UEFA were going to take meaningful action, for the first time in its history, it had to hit everyone, the innocent along with the guilty.

And that must mean a total ban on England in Europe for two or three years, with Leeds suspended for five.

That might not solve the problem of hooliganism — that's a sickness of society not just peculiar to soccer — but at least it would protect the better-behaved, more sportsmanlike Europeans, their police, their public and their stadia.

And to think, we once labelled the Argentinians "animals".

Bayern: Maier; Dürnberger, Andersson (Weiss 4), Schwarzenbeck, Beckenbauer, Roth, Torstensson, Zobel, Müller, Hoeness (Wunder 40), Kapellmann.

Leeds: Stewart; Reaney, F. Gray, Bremner, Madeley, Hunter, Lorimer, Clarke, Jordan, Giles, Yorath (E. Gray 79).

ERIC THORNTON'S SOCCER NOTEBOOK

WALES HAVE HUMAN TOUCH

THE human touch is so often missing at soccer's international levels that the time seems very appropriate to advance that particular commodity as one of the salient reasons for the gradual and surprising emergence of Wales over the last twelve months.

For more years than most folk in the Principality care to remember the old flag of St David has been drooping. Positively at half mast sometimes, while just over the border there have been joyful occasions, and the boys have been queueing for the prizes.

Now, Dai and the rest are feeling very much better, thank you. Greatly improved in health and spirits. Because so many of the people who matter in high places, have leaned over backwards in determined bids to provide better public relations, dressing room atmospheres, and encouragement.

Future

I believe the long-awaited renaissance began the day two Englishmen came together to plan the soccer future of the sportsmen of the valleys and the mountains. Yes, two Englishmen! It may be difficult to visualise Scots shaping England's national teams. Or vice versa.

But a country with a population that could be lost in a corner of London, is forced by circumstance to extend the boundaries when appointments are being considered.

Which is largely why Mike Smith, once on the fringe of an England spot at the Olympics, was able to enter the short list, and, finally, take over the Welsh managership, last year.

And why ex-Burnley wing-half and Blackburn director Arthur Barritt, one-time chairman of the selectors yet a Lancastrian, has been in the Corridors of Power for nearly 21 years.

Reference

A Londoner and former Corinthian-Casual, Smith, who succeeded Dave Bowen, had been Director of Coaching since 1968. The youth team provided an automatic reference by beating England on its way to the finals of the "little" European championships.

His seniors have since triumphed over Hungary, in Budapest, for starters.

That was Wales' first major triumph on foreign soil for 17 years. Jimmy Murphy, once Matt Busby's First Lieutenant, was then the inspiration behind the battle to reach the 1958 World Cup quarter-finals with a first round play-off victory over the Magyars, in Stockholm.

Now, after failing to qualify in the last four World Cups, and four European championships, they are leading their European Group, with only Austria in with a chance of overtaking them, and the betting boys are offering the odds against that happening.

Those who originally opposed handing the job to Smith, in an early "nationalist" move, have either been converted by improved performances, or gone into hiding.

Recognised

For everyone is now backing this 39-year-old who, I believe, recognised there would be knockers around in the beginning, especially during remodelling.

Actually, it was to be expected that eyebrows would be raised with team changes resulting in the rather surprising recall of Griffiths, Wrexham's veteran schemer.

It had been generally conceded that Arfon's cap days were over. Yet he was in the team once more, and an outstanding success.

Others have been brought in again. For instance, John Roberts, the Birmingham and former Arsenal pivot who has stepped into Mike England's old role, and his defensive club colleague Malcolm Page, resuming an international career after a year's absence.

Perhaps the most notable change concerns Dai Davies, a depressed third team goalkeeper last year, now at the top of the tree because of "fatherly" advice and encouragement from many people.

Everton, his first professional outfit, gave him only two first team appearances in three years. He moved to Swansea, had talks with an understanding Harry Gregg, whom you'll remember was a Prince of Goalkeepers in his time. Then returned to Goodison, costing the second-thought Merseysiders £20,000.

Vacancy

Yet Dai, a 27-years-old miner's son, once more filled the third team vacancy at the start of the last campaign. But, more important, he finished it as a first team regular whose promotion won a £15,000 bonus for The Swans, and lifted him into Wales' international squad at the expense of Gary Sprake.

It may be an Irishism but it will certainly be one for the Guinness Book of Records if an Englishman's scheming win a top award for a party of Weshmen!

Atletico win club title...

APRIL 10

PARIS: The European Cup Final will definitely take place at the Parc des Princes Stadium in Paris on May 28. But only the agreement of the French Rugby Federation to put forward their own final from May 25 to May 18 prevented it being transferred to Lyon.

APRIL 11

MADRID: Atletico Madrid won the World Club Championship beating Independiente 2-0 in the second leg to win 2-1 on aggregate. Irureta and Ayala scored.

APRIL 12

JOHANNESBURG: South Africa's Champion of Champions soccer tournament came through a stormy finale with the all-white Hellenic losing 2-1, to all-black Kaiser Chiefs. World Cup referee Jack Taylor took both sides off at one time after a near riot caused by the black section of the 40,000 segregated crowd, following a disputed goal. But Hellenic won 5-2 on aggregate.

APRIL 14

CAPE TOWN: South African soccer fans were warned about their behaviour by Sports Minister Piet Koornhof who said that teams of different races might never be allowed to compete against each other again.

MUNICH: The United States Soccer Federation told Bayern Munich it was withdrawing its law suit against the club and Dettmar Cramer the trainer, who had quit as the U.S. Olympic soccer coach.

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APRIL 16

BERNE: UEFA disclosed that it had declared Italian agent Desiderio Solti *persona non grata* after a report on an attempt to bribe the referee of the Derby County v Juventus European Cup semi-final in 1973.

GOTHENBURG: Scotland drew 1-1 with Sweden with a late equaliser from Ted MacDougall making his debut. Thomas Sjoberg scored for Sweden. In an Under-23 international between the two countries the Scots won 2-1 with two goals from skipper Tommy Craig to one by Jan Sjostrom.

BUDAPEST: Wales beat Hungary 2-1 in their European Championship match with goals, one each side of the interval, from John Toshack and John Mahoney to a second half reply from Laszlo Branikovits.

APRIL 17

MADRID: Rumania drew 1-1 with Spain in a European Championship match with Manuel Velazquez opening the scoring in five minutes and Zoltan Crisan equalisnig in the 69th minute. The attendance was 100,000.

APRIL 18

ROTTERDAM: Wiel Coerver, coach of Feyenoord, signed a two-year contract as trainer of the Indonesia national side.

NEW YORK: Pele is reported to have agreed to play for New York Cosmos for three million dollars according to Clive Toye, the General Manager of the Cosmos.

APRIL 19

ROME: Italy and Poland drew 0-0 in the European Championship and left the Italians with a lot to do to qualify for the quarter finals.

BERNE: The French Football Federation officially confirmed that the Parc des Princes will stage the European Cup Final on May 28.

WELLINGTON: Fulham are not to tour New Zealand because of their FA Cup Final commitments. Sheffield United will replace them.

APRIL 20

BRUNSWICK: Pele delighted a 20,000 crowd in a charity game playing for the All-Stars against Eintracht Brunswick. Pele scored one goal and ex-West German skipper Uwe Seeler got two but they lost 5-3. The match was in aid of disabled children.

PRAGUE: Czechoslovakia beat Cyprus 4-0 in the European Championship with goals by Antonin Panenka (3) and Marian Masny before only 3,000.

APRIL 22

WELLINGTON: Ron Kelly, chairman of the New Zealand FA, criticised Fulham for pulling out of their tour which was to have taken place in June.

APRIL 23

ERFURT: East Germany beat Greece 4-0 in an Olympic Games second leg qualifying match in which the winners used their full national side. Pommerenke, Zapf, Vogel and Riediger scored their goals. The German won the first leg 1-0.

MILAN: Gianni Rivera, thought to be on the point of a major row with AC Milan failed to turn up for training for the second successive day.

BRUSSELS: Paul Van Himst, captain of Anderlecht and Belgium, said he was leaving his club after 16 years because of his uncertain position in the first team. He had played 455 first team games for the club.

APRIL 24

MILAN: Rivera appeared at training again having been upset by a remark that the club had been planning to sell him.

DAKAR: Joao Havelange, President of the FIFA, said that there would be 16 finalists in the 1978 World Cup as before. Five centres would be used in Argentina for the competition: Buenos Aires, Rosario, Cordoba, Mendoza and Mar Del Plata.

DATELINE DIARY

APRIL 26

DAKAR: Havelange was made a commander of the Senegalese order of the Lion to add to an incredible list of personal decorations he has collected in his lifetime.

PARIS: L'Equipe, the sports paper which was the prime mover in the instigation of the European Cup, called on UEFA to organise a match for third and fourth places between the losing semi-finalists.

APRIL 27

SOFIA: West Germany drew 1-1 with Bulgaria in a European Championship match. Both sides scored from penalties: Kolev for Bulgaria, Ritschel for Germany. Franz Beckenbauer played his 90th game for West Germany.

MAY 1

LUXEMBOURG: Wales beat Luxembourg 3-1 for their fourth successive victory this season. Gil Reece, Leighton James (two) for Wales and Paul Philipp for Luxembourg were the scorers.

BUENOS AIRES: Argentina plan to complete their 1978 World Cup preparations by December 1977 according to Social Welfare Minister Jose Lopez.

MAY 2

BERNE: Michel Kitabdjian of France will referee the European Cup Final, Bobby Davidson of Scotland the Cup Winners Cup Final, Hungary's Karoly Palotai and Paul Schiller of Austria respectively handle the two legs of the UEFA Cup Final.

MUNICH: Bayern Munich will be without Johnny Hansen, their Danish international right back, in the European Cup Final. He is under treatment for an inflamed vein in his left thigh after injury in a League game a month ago.

MAY 8

LISBON: Portugal's First Division players agreed to strike on May 11 to force the government to abolish transfer fees. Artur Jorge, head of the players' union and an unsuccessful candidate for the Communist Portuguese Democratic Movement, called the strike. He plays for Benfica.

PARIS: M. Antoine Chiarisoli, a former President of the French Football Federation, died aged 72. He was a Vice-President of FIFA, too.

MAY 9

BUENOS AIRES: Referees in Argentina plan to strike in support of Jorge Alvarez, arrested under an obscure local law, after awarding a disputed penalty.

LISBON: Portuguese players are to arrange several games among themselves on Sunday next to raise funds for Olhanense who have not paid any salaries since February.

MUNICH: Bayern Munich have sold all their allocation of 8,000 tickets for the European Cup Final. Eight charter planes will fly supporters out while others are expected to travel by special trains and buses.

ZURICH: FIFA announced their squad of 32 players from which a European team will play South America in Rio on June 18 to celebrate the next Football Day.

MAY 10

LISBON: Portuguese players called off their strike after the government agreed to abolish transfer fees.

MAY 11

RIO: A Royal Navy team drew 1-1 with a Brazilian Navy side in a friendly in the Maracana Stadium. The British sailors are on a goodwill visit to Brazil. And it was the Navy who first brought the game to Brazil in the previous century.

BUCHAREST: Rumania beat Denmark 6-1 in a European Championship match.

LIMASSOL: England had a 1-0 win over Cyprus in the European Championship, the only goal coming early on from Kevin Keegan.

LAGOS: Manchester City had a player sent off in the game in which they beat the Nigerian Armed Forces 2-1. Tommy Booth was sent off for arguing with the referee.

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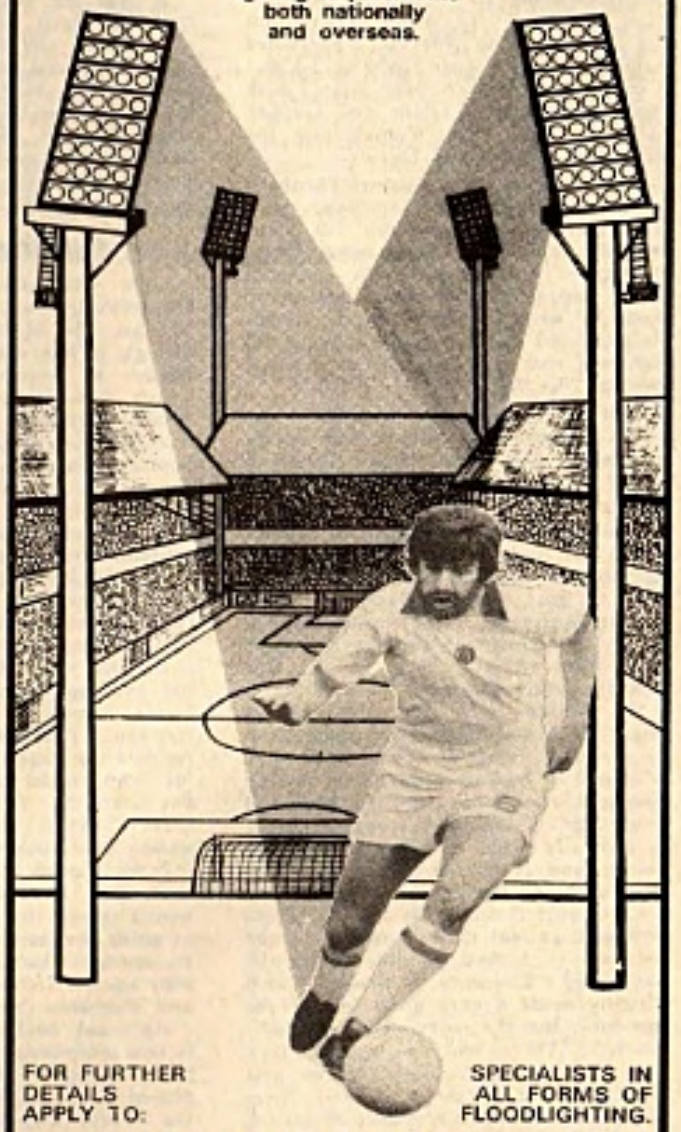

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Nothing left to shock Scotland

says ALEX GORDON

IT is surely impossible that there is anything left in this wonderful world of soccer that would shock a Scottish fan.

Through 100 years of international football they have watched breathlessly as their country rose to unthinkable peaks — and then plunged to the depths of despair. Things certainly haven't changed after a century of incredible international happenings.

Look at the Home International Championships, for instance. Scotland were trailing 2-0 to Wales and all but out of it at the interval. Forty-five minutes later the score stood at 2-2 and it could so easily have been victory with shots from Derek Parlane and Gordon McQueen just about demolishing the woodwork around Dai Davies.

The next game was against Northern Ireland at Hampden. The Irish were fresh from a very creditable 1-0 European Championship victory over Yugoslavia and a 0-0 draw with England. What happened? Scotland hammered them 3-0 with Ted MacDougall, Kenny Dalglish and Derek Parlane placing the ball past that very capable last line of defence, Pat Jennings.

And so it was onto Wembley. The tartan hordes were confident and utterly convinced that poor Ray Clemence would have severe backache after 90 minutes of sheer hell.

What happened? The Scottish defence ended the game stumbling along like fear-stricken zombies with every English shot at goal looking likely to elude Stewart Kennedy. The tartan tornado hardly had time to stop waving their flags when Gerry Francis hit the first past the static Kennedy.

We settled back and thought we might as well brighten up proceedings by giving the English a goal of a start. A couple of minutes later Kevin Beattie rose to a cross from the right wing and every Scot in Wembley froze in horror as Kennedy made no effort to stop the header and it floated slowly and tantalisingly into the net.

Colin Bell thumped in a third before Scotland scored their penalty — the only way it looked possible to get the ball past Clemence. Bruce Rioch actually made a very good job of the spot-kick, but the roars were only half-hearted. There was no way Scotland were going to get another three past Clemence for victory — and there didn't seem much of a chance of getting two for a draw.

The agony continued after half-time. Francis hit another long-range drive away from fear-intoxicated Kennedy and Dave Johnson completed a very good afternoon's work by poking the fifth over the line from close-in after it seemed every English player except the goalkeeper had had a go.

Scotland were demoralised. The next game was against Rumania in Bucharest in the European Championship — and it looked as though this would surely be manager Willie Ormond's last game in charge of the team.

It was no surprise when Rumania took the lead. It was expected that they would add to that goal, in fact. But like I said earlier, Scottish soccer fans are not easily shocked after what they have been through in the past. So when Gordon McQueen appeared to hook a shot past stranded goalkeeper Raducanu for the equaliser it was just par for the course.

Another chance

How vital that goal is to Willie Ormond's international career has yet to be seen. But at the moment it looks as though it has earned Ormond another chance to improve upon his record which isn't very impressive on its present standing. So far Ormond has been behind the team in 27 games and Scotland have won only nine of those games. Seven have been drawn with eleven being lost.

It seemed highly likely that Celtic supremo Jock Stein, at present in charge of the Under-23 team, would leave his beloved Parkhead team to take over as full-time manager of his country. Everything looked set for the changeover.

Denials were made, of course, but the average fan on the terracing was firmly convinced that it would go through. The Celtic fans, in fact, had reached the stage that they were wondering who would take over from Stein. Pat Crerand? Billy Bremner? Johnny Giles? Willie Fernie? These names among many others were mentioned.

Now, though, another soccer somersault has happened in Scotland. It would appear that Ormond will be there to guide the team through its remaining European Championship games this year against Denmark (home and away) and Rumania (home).

As usual, Scotland have disappointed in this tournament. I suppose we should have expected the unexpected. We played Spain at Hampden shortly after the World Cup in West Germany in which Ormond's team won a lot of praise and admiration. We had blitzed East Germany 3-0 in a Challenge Match and everything looked geared for a night of success against the Spaniards.

And what happened? After a miserable 90 minutes Spain finished victors by 2-1. It was a typical Scottish display. Billy Bremner poked the ball past Jose Iribar for the opening goal early in the game. Shortly after this a Spanish defender handled a cross from Dixie Deans and the referee awarded a penalty kick.

Here was a chance to put the result beyond doubt. Tom Hutchison took the penalty and it looked more like a pass-back than an attempt at goal. Spain survived and equalised through Quini and in the second-half David Harvey has surely never lost such a daft goal when he made a complete mess of a long-range shot and there was Quini appearing to have all the time in the world before running No. 2 into the net.

If Scotland had gone down in Valencia we would then have admitted that we had no chance at all in the tourney. What happened? Joe Jordan scored in the opening minutes and the Scots all but held out for two points until Spain sneaked in their controversial equaliser.

So now Scotland still have a chance of qualifying, but it would read like something out of a Boys' Own comic if this was achieved. There are an awful lot of ifs and buts about their chances.

Scotland must now win their three remaining games. That would give them a total of eight points. Spain are on six at the moment and must be expected to beat Denmark to give them eight points. That would mean they would need only one point from Rumania to be sure of qualifying. However, that game is in Bucharest — and it is one the Rumanians could win.

If that happened — and it is not out of the bounds of possibility — that would give the Rumanians seven points. Everything would then rest on the last game of the qualifying section — Scotland v. Rumania at Hampden in December.

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Steady improvement

FIELDING their full team in the Olympic Games, the East Germans achieved a fair degree of success in this competition but it was not until the 1974 series that they first qualified for the final stages of the premier event, the World Cup.

This was due to two factors — the improvement in the playing standards in the DDR on the one hand, and a kindly draw in the qualifying stages that kept them away from the real big guns like Italy, for the first time. Though they failed to secure one of the last four places in 1974, most East Germans were undoubtedly satisfied with their performance, giving them as it did a 1-0 win over arch rivals West Germany who went on to win the trophy.

Football in the DDR took a very long time to get off the ground following the 1939-45 war. It was not until 1948 that the first championship was held with the Cup coming a year later. Then in the 1950's the basis of the game was reorganised with clubs associated to factories and other state industries and slowly, progress was made.

Between 1958 and 1968 the club game in the DDR was dominated by the Army team FC Vorwarts, based then in Berlin but later transferred to Frankfurt-on-the-Oder. But as in other East European countries the clubs began to have more and more say as their game developed and the Army lost its rights to retain the best players that passed through their hands.

by ERIC BATTY

After a slow start to the domestic game it took even longer for the new DDR national team to establish itself and, in fact, their first international was not played until September, 1952 when they met Poland and lost 0-3 in Warsaw. At first their international encounters were limited to friendly matches against East European neighbours but even so they had to wait another three years for their first success. This came in September, 1955 when they won 3-2 away to Rumania in Bucharest and then at last they entered the qualifying competition for the 1958 World Cup.

Starting from scratch, with no traditions and a poor economic situation, the DDR had a hard time establishing themselves in the international arena and they were not helped by a ban by NATO countries which even prevented their club teams from playing competitive matches in the three European Club competitions.

Finally, understanding opponents agreed to play their 'home' ties in places like neutral Sweden and the final breakthrough came largely as a result of the English who sent their Under 23 team to play the DDR in Berlin in 1960 and followed that with a visit by the full international side in 1963 when England won 2-1 in Leipzig. After that the gates were open and the DDR was freed to play anyone they chose.

Even so, there were many surprises in the early year with more defeats than victories. One notable defeat was a 6-5 debacle away to Norway in Oslo in September 1958.

Perhaps the turning point for the international game in the DDR came in 1961 when their FA engaged the Hungarian coach Karoly Soos to look after their national team. He stayed for seven years, working with a variety of East German assistants and when he returned to Budapest in December 1967 he left behind a positive record. Under Soos the DDR won 19 of their 43 games, drew 10 and lost 14.

After Soos's departure his chief assistant Harald Seeger took over but the final break through did not come until the manager of FC Carl Zeiss, Georg Buschner, was appointed and basing his national team on his old club it was he who finally led them to the last 16 in the 1974 World Cup.

In the early years most of the best players were concentrated in the Vorwarts ranks and they provided most of the international players. Later the emphasis switched to Zeiss and Dynamo Dresden and later still to 1st FC Magdeburg as these three clubs began to dominate the league championship and Cup.

The first non-Vorwarts player to reach a very high level of play as an individual was Dieter Erler, an inside right who played for FC Karl Marx Stadt and earned a total of 47 caps that stood as a record until the present team began to play together regularly under Herr Buschner.

Since then several players have gone on to break Erler's record, most prominent amongst them being Peter Ducke who first set a new record and now has 65 caps. Goalkeeper Jurgen Croy also has 60 and is still going strong but two veterans who will surely pass from the scene soon, now hold pride of place.

This pair are Bernd Bransch, the *libero* of the 1973-74 team, and left winger Eberhard Vogel, who have each represented the DDR 67 times.

Since the World Cup the DDR has been pegged back by injuries to key players and this accounts largely for their recent results—a 1-1 draw with little Iceland, a 0-3 defeat in Scotland and then three draws 2-2 with France; 0-0 v. Belgium and 0-0 v. Bulgaria. Jurgen Sparwasser, Hans-Jurgen Kreische both midfield generals who also get goals and centre forward Peter Ducke have spent most of this season out of action following knee operations but when their two key midfield men return to active duty the DDR should come again.

INTERNATIONAL MICROSCOPE — EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	Goals A
Albania	3	2	1	0	7	2
Algeria	1	1	0	0	3	1
Argentina	1	0	1	0	1	1
Australia	1	1	0	0	2	0
Austria	2	1	1	0	2	1
Belgium	3	1	1	1	1	3
Brazil	1	0	0	1	0	1
Bulgaria	9	1	4	4	7	13
Burma	1	1	0	0	5	1
Canada	1	1	0	0	2	0
Colombia	1	1	0	0	2	0
Ceylon (Sri Lanka)	1	1	0	0	12	1
Chile	4	2	1	1	7	4
Czechoslovakia	10	4	3	3	15	17
Denmark	4	2	2	0	9	5
Ecuador	1	0	1	0	1	1
Egypt (U.A.R.)	3	3	0	0	16	1
England	3	0	1	2	3	6
Finland	4	3	0	1	17	5
France	1	0	1	0	2	2
Germany, West	1	1	0	0	1	0
Ghana	2	1	0	1	4	3
Guinea	1	1	0	0	3	2
Holland	6	2	1	3	8	10
Hungary	12	3	2	7	14	21
Iceland	3	2	1	0	5	2
Indonesia	2	1	1	0	5	3
Iraq	2	1	1	0	6	1
Italy	2	0	1	1	2	5
Luxembourg	3	3	0	0	10	1
Mali	1	1	0	0	2	1
Mexico	2	1	1	0	2	1
Morocco	3	1	0	2	4	6
Norway	3	2	0	1	10	7
Poland	11	4	3	4	17	13
Portugal	2	0	0	2	2	5
Rumania	11	7	0	4	18	14
Scotland	1	0	0	1	0	3
Sweden	2	2	0	0	5	1
Tunisia	2	2	0	0	7	0
Uruguay	5	3	2	0	7	1
U.S.S.R.	6	1	3	2	8	9
Wales	4	3	0	1	8	7
Yugoslavia	4	0	2	2	4	7
Totals	146	67	35	44	266	188

INTERNATIONAL POST MORTEM

EXPERIENCE IN RUMANIA LINE-UP

Czechoslovakia 1: Rumania 1

WITH both teams due to play vital European championship games very shortly a hastily arranged friendly match was staged at the Sparta stadium in Prague on a Monday evening so as not to disrupt the league programme.

The clubs played on Friday and Saturday to give the players a short break.

The Czechs brought in the Dukla inside left Miroslav Gajdusek, who is very good when he's on form and Zdenek Nehoda returned to the team, playing not in his old role at centre forward but on the left of Jan Svehlik.

The Rumanians also experimented, fielding a team that bore little resemblance to their side that played in the Mexico World Cup five years ago. Only on the wings and down the middle of the pitch were there familiar names.

Mircea Lucescu gained his 51st cap on the left wing with Radu Nunweiler (Nunweiler VI) playing for the 40th time . . . at outside right, though normally a very strong not to say skilful midfield player. Dinu was still there too for his 48th cap as well as stopper Satmareanu (45th cap) and goalkeeper Raducana (38th cap).

For the Czechs, Pivarnik at right back and Ondrus their young stopper were best while Gajdusek had a good match as did Nehoda, who got the first goal just before the interval.

With both sets of defenders generally in command there were few scoring chances and it looked as if the Czechs were going to win a very friendly game when centre forward Kun broke away to equalise just 15 minutes from the final whistle.

England 5: Cypras 0

ANOTHER big Wembley crowd turned out expecting to see the massacre of little Cyprus that England should have achieved but didn't. Despite the comfortable 5-0 score-line, the visitors made England struggle at times with a team that was so committed to defence that Peter Shilton in the England goal was left almost a spectator.

The anticipated avalanche of goals did not come largely because England still have only one answer to a massed defence—the high cross—and even against defenders who were not particularly good in the air and a goalkeeper who was spectacular on the line but terrible on the cross, only Malcolm Macdonald demonstrated the power and determination in the air that enabled him to score all five goals. Either the other nine of England's outfield players were not good enough in the air, which is a strange thought, or more likely the quality of the crosses was such that made it difficult for people to put themselves on the end of a stream of high balls.

England couldn't have got off to a better start with Macdonald getting his first goal after only two minutes—heading Hudson's free kick past a helpless 'keeper. From then on England struggled where one would have thought they would be full of confidence and the second goal did not go in until after 35 minutes play. Even then it was a mis-kick with Macdonald hitting a pass from Kevin Kegan into the net off his shin.

Only two up at half time, England looked often as if they were going to obtain another Wembley win without any glory and there wasn't much to shout about from an England viewpoint. Macdonald gave the evening a memorable air by becoming the first England player ever to get five goals at Wembley.

England (2) 5 (Macdonald 5)
Cyprus (0) 0

England: Shilton; Madeley, Brattis, Bell, Watson, Todd, Ball, Channon (Thomas), Macdonald, Hudson, Keegan.

Cyprus: Alkiviades (Constantinou I); Kovis, Kyzas, Paetzanu, Michael, Savva Theodorou, Stylinou, Charalambous (Constantinou II), Marcou.

N. Ireland 1: Yugoslavia 0

THE Yugoslavs should be applauded for braving a trip to Belfast and enabling Northern Ireland to stage their first international on their own soil at Windsor Park for more than two years. However, in retrospect they must have wished they had declined and played the match somewhere else for they were very rarely in the game.

Apart from Red Star's Olja Petrovic in goal, the Yugoslavs put up little resistance and the winning margin of the Irish could have been much greater. The only goal of the game came after 23 minutes from a left wing corner floated over beyond the far post by Jackson and converted by the Ipswich Town pair, Hunter and Hamilton. Hunter got up well to the ball and headed it back across the goal where Hamilton on his own, headed it into the net.

Yugoslavia had a very different team from their World Cup squad of last year with only Katalinski and Buljan in defence and Oblak (out of form and fitness—, Jerkovic a reserve last summer and Surjak playing in his club position on the left wing instead of Dragan Dzajic, whose international career looked to be in jeopardy before this reverse.

Northern Ireland had a goal disallowed, had another shot cleared off the line and the referee awarded them an indirect free kick when almost everyone present thought they should have had a penalty for a foul by goalkeeper Petrovic and generally had more chances than they had any right to expect. As it was their one goal victory put them at the head of their group, though they have played one game more than Yugoslavia and Norway—and two more than Sweden.

Northern Ireland (1) 1 (Hamilton)
Yugoslavia (0) 0

Ireland: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Nicholl, Hunter, Clements, Hamilton, O'Neill, Spence, McIlroy, Jackson.

Yugoslavia: Ognjen Petrovic; Muzinic, Katalinski, Peruzovic, Hadzibegic, Buljan, Oblak, Jerkovic (Milkovic), Danovic, Vukotic (Vladic), Surjak.

Hungary 1: Wales 2

A 35,000 crowd at the Nep Stadion in Budapest saw the re-vitalised Welshmen move to the top of the European championship group with a 2-1 win that would have made headlines just a few years ago. The fact that Wales' success was accepted calmly is partly due to the recent improvement in Welsh fortunes under their first full time boss Mike Smith and partly because of the regrettable decline in the Hungarian game during the last decade.

Nevertheless this was a spirited performance by Wales who in Everton goalkeeper Dai Davies have found their best goalkeeper in years. Davies played a big part in saving the game when the Hungarians staged a late rally but it was a good all round performance with Leighton James of Burnley and John Mahoney of Stoke City the key men.

It was all Hungary in the opening minutes with Wales unable to string passes together with Davies taking everything in the air and making one fine save. Then Wales broke away to carve out their first chance which ended when Mahoney was chopped down by Balint for a penalty that John Toshack took with no power to allow Hungarian goalkeeper Meszaros to make a save that brought cheers from the home crowd.

Just before the break, a well organised move down the right put James away and his low, hard cross evaded Hungarian feet to find Toshack who side-footed the ball home from close range. Now it was Hungary's turn to pile on the pressure and again they dominated the opening minutes of the second half. With more than an hour gone Mahoney scored against the play before Ferencvaros centre forward Branikovits brought Hungary to life with a good goal but Davies proved equal to everything hit at him.

Hungary (0) 1 (Branikovits)
Wales (1) 2 (Toshack, Mahoney)

Hungary: Meszaros; Torok, Nagy III, Balint, Toth (J), Csapo, (Bene) Kocsis, Horvath, Kozma, (Pintar) Branikovits, Mate.

Wales: Davies; Thomas, Page, Phillips, Roberts (D), Yorath, Mahoney, Griffiths, Reece (Smallman), Toshack, James (Flynn).

England captain Alan Ball goes through his paces in training watched by manager Don Revie and goalkeeper Peter Shilton.

by
ERIC BATTY

Sweden 1: Scotland 1

SWEDEN turned out a team for this friendly in Gothenburg that included few of their World Cup team and was entirely home-based apart from Ralf Edstrom (PSV Eindhoven) and the Bayern Munchen pair, Conny Torstensson and Bjorn Andersson.

Scotland, too, turned out a depleted team to devalue the occasion but debutant goalkeeper Stewart Kennedy of Rangers had a fine game and Ted MacDougall, in his first match for Scotland, went close on several occasions before scoring an equalising goal just four minutes from the end.

The Swedes could have had the game sewn up in the first half but for a combination of poor finishing by the Swedish forwards and brave goalkeeping by Kennedy. Even so, it was Sweden who took the lead, just a minute before the interval when Edstrom's pass enabled Thomas Sjoberg to break clear of the Scottish defence that stood appealing in vain for offside. Kennedy came out well but Sjoberg kept his head and lobbed the ball over the goalkeeper and into the net.

The game never reached any great heights and it looked as if Scotland were going to maintain their poor record outside the British Isles when MacDougall, who had worked relentlessly all evening, had a change of luck. From a penetrating pass by Kenny Dalglish, MacDougall brought the ball down with plenty of time before Kent Karlsson got close enough to challenge, threatened his way past him and planted the ball firmly in the net to give Scotland a draw they barely deserved on the play.

Sweden (1) 1 (Sjoberg)
Scotland (0) 1 (MacDougall)

Sweden: Hagberg; Bjorn Andersson, Karlsson, Nordqvist (Roy Andersson), Augustsson, Edstrom (Nordahl), Fredriksson, Torstensson, Ahlstrom, Mattsson.

Scotland: Kennedy; Jardine, McGrain, Souness (Johnstone), Munro, Jackson, Dalglish, Macari (Hughes), Parlane, MacDougall, Robinson (Duncan).

Spain 1: Rumania 1

RUMANIA gave Spain a far tougher fight than the home side had expected and Ladislav Kubala had drawn up an attacking team. His opposite number Valentin Stanescu drew a tight defensive net around his goal with six, seven or eight men back according to the situation and always a free back.

The Rumanians also surprised the Spaniards with their skill in midfield where they were able to retain possession for lengthy periods and it was here in midfield where Spain lost out. Del Bosque of Real Madrid and Rojo of Atletico Bilbao were brought into this department but neither had a very good game. For Rumania there were many capable performers but only one player of real class, inside right Dimitru who laboured with skill and understanding throughout the ninety minutes, and with Carlos Rexach the CFB right winger was the best player afield.

Spain went ahead after only six minutes. Rexach won a corner on the left, took it quickly himself and played the ball to left back Capon who crossed to find the head of Del Bosque who nodded it back for Velazquez to beat Raducanu just inside his right hand post.

Just before the interval Rumania brought on Jordanescu and Crisan for Kun and Nunweiler. It looked for a long time as if that one goal would be enough but in the 71st minute a free kick from midfield found Crisan in space and he ghosted past Benito before slipping the ball by Iribar and into the net for a result that compromises Spain's position as favourites for their group after two home draws.

Spain (1) 1 (Velazquez)
Rumania (0) 1 (Crisan)

Spain: Iribar; Camacho, Capon, Benito, Del Bosque, Pirri, Velazquez (Irureta), Santillana, Rexach, Rojo, Garate.

Rumania: Raducanu; Cheras, Sandu, Satmareanu II, Anghelini, Balaci, Georgescu, Dumitru, Nunweiler VI (Crisan), Kun (Jordanescu), Lucescu.

Czechoslovakia 4: Cyprus 0

AFTER Cyprus' 5-0 drubbing at Wembley, where the turf must have taken a lot of stamina from players accustomed to hard, grassless pitches, there might have been a morale and physical collapse when Cyprus met Czechoslovakia before a mere 5,000 at the Sparta stadium in Prague. However, the Cypriots wisely made six changes and once more set out to contain the opposition by all-out defence.

With the Cypriots pegged back for most of the game in their own half, the Czechs launched wave after wave of attacks and in ten minutes the Bohemians midfield player Antonin Panenka opened the scoring after a good run and cross by right wingers Marian Masny. In 38 minutes the Czechs went further ahead through the same player with a free kick that beat the wall after a foul on Svehlik.

Knowing they must try and match England's five at least the Czechs piled on the pressure in the second half and only three minutes after the break Panenka completed his hat trick . . . again from a free kick for a foul on Masny . . . and this one was a real bomb of a shot.

Continuous pressure—corner after corner—with the Cypriots rarely in the game seemed likely to produce no further goals and Jezek brought on the controversial Petras, hoping he could produce his own personal brand of magic. In fact he contributed no goals but only three minutes after his appearance Gajdusek sent Masny away with a cross field ball and the winger cut inside to score the fourth goal himself.

Czechoslovakia (2) 4 (Panenka 3, Masny)
Cyprus (0) 0

Czechoslovakia: Viktor; Pivarnik, Josef Capkovic (Petrasi), Ondrus, Koubek, Panenka, Bicovsky, Gajdusek, Masny, Svehlik, Nehoda.

Cyprus: Panos; Kovis, Kyzas, Stavros, Pantzaru, Gregory, Melis (Pnikos), Michael (Yolidis), Marcos, Charlambous, Stylianou.

Italy 0: Poland 0

FOLLOWING the recent pitch invasions at the Olympic Stadium in Rome, more than 4,000 police and carabinieri were in attendance for the clash between Italy and Poland, which, said Italy's temporary boss Fulvio Bernardini: "We have to win".

Fielding a striking trio of Graziani, Chinaglia and Pulici, the Italians certainly played more open football than in the heady pre-World Cup days when they went unbeaten under Feruccio Valcareggi but though Chinaglia dropped back to try and lead the attack from behind, they were rarely able to trouble the Polish rearguard.

The new Italian star, Giancarlo Antognoni of Fiorentina, opened with all the promise of the highly gifted 21-year-old he is. An artist with the ball and a quite remarkable technique as an individual, Antognoni is still too much a one man show, lacking vision and creative ideas. After the first quarter of the game Antognoni faded and with his comparative disappearance went Italy's hopes.

Jan Tomaszewski in Poland's goal was again in super form and with tactics similar to those that earned a Wembley draw, Poland moved to the favourite position at the head of their qualifying group with a fine display of defence and counter attack.

With the exception of Henryk Wawrowski at left back, in on merit, the Poles were at full World Cup strength and certainly earned their point.

Italy (0) 0
Poland (0) 0

Italy: Zoff; Facchetti, Gentile, Bellugi, Rocca, Cordova, Antognoni Morini (G), Graziani, Chinaglia, Pulici.

Poland: Tomaszewski, Gorgon, Szymanowski Zmuda, Wawrowski, Kasperczak (Cmikiewicz), Deyna, Masiczyk, Lato, Szarmach, Gadocha.

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FRENCH

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France 0: Portugal 2

A CROWD of 25,000 plus 9,000 schoolboys invited free saw France slump to an unexpected defeat at the hands of Portugal, who played basically the cat and mouse 'keep-ball' game that frustrated England at Wembley last autumn.

Idol of the French crowds Guillou had a poor game, a mere shadow of the player he can be at his best and though none of the Saint Etienne players were chosen because of their European Cup commitments this was a disastrous day for French football and in particular for their Rumanian boss Stefan Kovacs, who now has more critics than friends and seems unlikely to have his contract renewed at the end of the season.

Early on in the game France missed a golden chance when Guillou, Michel and Bracci set up a move that put left winger Bereta away but from a good position he aimed at the far post but Portuguese goalkeeper Damas got down to turn the ball away. Humberto and Alhino were again very prominent at the heart of the Portuguese defence, solid and reliable in everything they did, pushing short passes out into midfield instead of thumping long balls away.

Humberto even broke out to pop up on the right wing and provide the cross that led to the opening goal. Two French defenders leaped to head away but only impeded each other and allowed the ball to go on across goal where Nene popped it into the net.

Portugal created another anxious moment for the French when Fraguito got his head to a shot by Toni and the French goalkeeper did well to save. Two minutes later he had to go down at the feet of Moinhos to prevent another goal but he had no chance. Jodar the French right back missed his header to glance the ball for Marinho who nipped in to lob the ball into the net over the advancing goalkeeper.

France (0) 0
Portugal (1) 2 (Nene, Marinho)

France: Chartier (Baratelli); Jodar (Boissier), Adams, Trinor, Bracci, Huck (Gallice), Michel, Guillou, Parizon, Castr, Bereta (Mariotti).
Portugal: Damas; Rebelo, Humberto, Alhisho, Barros, Toni (Pietra), Octavio, Fraguito, Nene (Moinhos), Alves (Teixeira), Marinho (Gomes).

Bulgaria 1: West Germany 1

FOLLOWING their flop at Wembley, Helmut Schon had to do some quick re-thinking for the European championship visit to Sofia. With Muller, Overath & Co. still determined not to play, he finally turned to Real Madrid stars Paul Breitner (who had said many unkind things about his former colleagues and the DFB) and Gunter Netzer, who, having been passed over for the World Cup might well have said no.

With the return of this pair, the overall result was a great improvement with the defence looking solid, Rainer Bonhof being released from left back to play in midfield where the level of performance was much improved, but this still left problems in attack. Jupp Heynckes, the leading scorer in the *Bundesliga* with 21 goals, was recalled but carried off injured after only half an hour to be replaced by Bernd Holzenbein, while Ritschel who had played ineffectively at Wembley was retained.

Lacking penetration up front the Germans were clearly playing for a draw and in the 73rd minute the game turned against them. Denev went by Breitner and was brought down and from the resultant penalty Kolev beat Maier to put Bulgaria ahead.

The Germans then came to life a bit with back players and the midfield trio of Hoeness, Netzer and Bonhof pushing up. Breitner was fouled by Zafirov just outside the area and from the free kick Beckenbauer hit the bar and in the hurly burly that followed Holzenbein was floored for another penalty taken not by Beckenbauer, Breitner or Netzer but by the inexperienced Ritschel, who hit the ball hard and high past the goalkeeper's right hand to save a vital point.

Bulgaria (0) 1 (Kolev pen.)
West Germany (0) 1 (Ritschel pen.)

Bulgaria: Filipov; Zafirov, Rangelov, Marev, Efilmov, Kolev, Dimitrov, Panov, Alexandrov (Zdravkov), Jeliaskov, Denev.
West Germany: Maier; Beckenbauer, Vogts, Schwarzenbeck, Breitner, Bonhof, Hoeness (Korbel), Netzer, Ritschel, Seel, Heynckes (Holzenbein).

Switzerland 1: Turkey 1

WITH Turkish football clearly on the upgrade and playing the modern defensive game as enthusiastically as everyone else, the Swiss are going through a period of crisis.

The days when Kobi Kuhn and Karl Odermatt contributed class and skill from midfield are over and the team is having to be rebuilt. Unfortunately, the new generation chosen for this game failed miserably and the general consensus of opinion was that it was equal to an ordinary Division II game which in little Switzerland is pretty poor.

The Turks showed some neat skills in possession but little penetration in attack though their defence was generally solid. Making matters worse for the Swiss, who opened the scoring just before the end of a dull first half through Kudi Muller, was that they failed to realise in time that they were in danger of losing a vital point in their battle with Russia and Eire. Right back Alpaslan went upfield for a set piece soon after the interval to make the score 1-1 but it was not until there were only 12 minutes left for play when the Swiss brought on fresh blood.

Switzerland (1) 1 (Muller)
Turkey (0) 1 (Alpaslan)

Switzerland: Kung; Guyot, Heer, Bizzini, Fischbach, Hasler (Schild), Botteron, Kunzmann (Pfister), Muller, Jeandupeux, Elsener.
Turkey: Yasin; Zeya, Alpaslan, Ismail, Fatih, Zekeriya, Engin, Nikola, Ali-Kemal (Aydin), Gokman, Cemil.

Czechoslovakia 5: Portugal 0

ANTONIN Panenka, who scored three fine goals against Cyprus, was unfit for this vital game but the Czechs demoralised a Portuguese team that had survived 0-0 against England at Wembley and were fresh from a good win over France.

Ladislav Petras, the Inter Bratislava forward replaced Jan Svehlik at centre forward, and had a fine game. Full of skill and inventiveness, Petras at his best (and fully fit) is currently the finest all round forward at the Czechs' disposal. Zdenek Nehoda, the Dukla spearhead, fitted neatly alongside him and the Czechs methodically took the Portuguese apart.

After only 12 minutes Nehoda laid a ball back for Premysl Bicovsky, who shot first time into the net to open the scoring, and ten minutes later the same player beat Damas in the visitors goal with a blistering drive from 30 yards.

Three more minutes and captain Jan Pivarnik moved up to provide the cross from which Nehoda put Czechoslovakia 3-0 ahead and though the Czechs still threatened and the Portuguese had no answer to Petras when in possession they survived until the interval.

In the first minute of the second half, Petras engineered the fourth goal scored by Nehoda and in the 52nd minute a good move between Masny and Bicovsky was completed by Petras for the fifth goal. The Czechs were still in rampant mood but the game which was always a bit hard began to get out of hand and in the end there was no further score.

Czechoslovakia (3) 5 (Bicovsky 2, Nehoda 2, Petras)
Portugal (0) 0

Czechoslovakia: Viktor; Pivarnik, Jozef Capkovic, Ondras, Koubek (Svoboda), Bicovsky, Knapp (Medvid), Gajdusek, Masny, Petras, Nehoda.
Portugal: Damas; Rebelo, Humberto, Alhisho, Barros, Toni (Fietra), Fraguito, Octavio, Alves, Marinho, Nene (Gomes).

Luxembourg 1: Wales 3

RECORDING their fourth consecutive victory, a feat that most Welsh fans cannot remember, Wales took a firm hold on their qualifying group by beating Luxembourg very convincingly. Everything now depends on the Wales-Austria game next season when Wales need revenge for a defeat in Vienna.

Luxembourg recalled most of their exports, lacking only centre forward Dussier who plays in West Germany. Luxembourg put up a brave show before finally submitting and a battle royal between the experienced Louis Pilot, who has spent most of his career as a professional in Belgium, and John Toshack was one of the features of this game.

Even so, Luxembourg hung on grimly for almost half an hour and then two goals in ten minutes swung the game in Wales' favour. James broke away to cross for Toshack to head towards goal; his effort was cleared off the line but only as far as the half-fit Reece who scored with what appeared to be an impossible header.

Then from a free kick Yorath gave the ball to Reece who found a gap in the defensive wall and Leighton James popped up to control the ball, draw the goalkeeper and plant the ball in an empty net.

The home side might have collapsed after this but in a spirited fight back,

FAILURE

by ERIC BATTY

Fandel moved upfield to be fouled in the area by Page and Philipp another professional in Belgium, gave Davies no chance with his spot kick.

At 2-1 the result was in doubt for a long time though Wales were generally on top but with only seven minutes left, James threatened yet again and was brought down by Zuang. Taking the kick himself, James sent goalkeeper Moes the wrong way to put the result beyond further doubt.

Luxembourg (1) 1 (Phillipp pen.)
Wales (2) 3 (Reece, James 2)

Luxembourg: Moes; Pilot, Fandel, Hansen, Margue, Trierweiler, Zuang, Phillipp, Martin (Krecke) (Roemer), Zender, Braun.
Wales: Davies; Page, Yorath, Thomas, Roberts, Mahoney, Phillips, Griffiths (Flynn), Reece, Toshack, James.

Belgium 1: Holland 0

WITHOUT World Cup stars Cruyff and Neeskens for friendly matches, and lacking four other World Cup stars, Holland salvaged an honourable defeat from this game staged at the request of the Belgians. Wim Van Hanegem didn't follow up his threat not to play for Holland again, and on the right wing Twente FC's Zaidema had a fine game as did several other unknowns capped for the first time by Georg Knobel.

His Belgian counterpart, Raymond Goethals, was never a man to take chances but he was forced through injury to bring in young left back Xavier Caers for his debut with both Maurice Martens and Jean Thissen unfit. Leon Semmeling, too, is clearly over the top while Paul Van Himst is in dispute with Anderlecht so it was quite a new look Belgian side too.

Evenly balanced and hard fought like a local derby should be, the Belgians gained slight consolation for their World Cup elimination. The 25,000 crowd at the Duerne stadion in Antwerp made plenty of noise and both sides had the chances to score in the first half but goalkeepers Shrijvers for Holland and Piot for Belgium were both in good form.

Coeck and Cools combined well on several occasions to set up half chances but Jacques Teugels was not at his best with regard to finishing though he got himself into several good positions and it was left to the veteran centre forward Raoul Lambert to score an unexpected goal in the 77th minute to give Belgium an encouraging 1-0 win.

Belgium (0) 1 (Lambert)
Holland (0) 0

Belgium: Piot; Van Binst, Dewaique, Van den Daele, Caers, Van Moer, Coeck, Cools, Van der Elst, Lambert, Teugels.
Holland: Schrijvers; Suurbier, Rijsbergen, Van Kraay, Krol, Thijssen, Peters, Van Hanegem, Zaidema, Kist, Rensenbrink.

Cyprus 0: England 1

ENGLAND got two vital points from the visit to Limassol but their performance did nothing to suggest that they have overcome the problems that have beset English football since their World Cup elimination against Poland.

England fourth choice goalkeeper Mervyn Day is left to collect the balls missed by his leading rivals during an England get together.

As things stand now it is doubtful if they could do well against a really well organised, skilful and penetrative side such as Holland or Poland as they were last June and July in West Germany.

Don Revie improved on his approach a little by playing a more adventurous 4-2-4 formation but would have done even better to play 3-3-4 or even 2-2-2 for the Cypriots were no less eager to defend at home than they were at Wembley and Ray Clemence in the England goal had little more to do than Shilton had at Wembley.

Why one needs full backs against teams lacking wingers is a question that only the men responsible for choosing teams can answer and they would doubtless refuse or dodge the question.

Despite the conditions which were not to England's liking, quite understandably the pitch was far below standard but the warm evening is something that top class players must get accustomed to for World Cups and the final stages of the European championship and is no excuse.

England even got off to the best possible start, preventing a nervous situation which can develop when the minutes tick by and a defensive opponent keeps its goal intact. In the sixth minute a corner taken by Dave Thomas was met in the air at the near post by Kevin Kegan who scored the only goal with a glancing header inside the far post.

Cyprus (0) 0
England (1) 1 (Keegan)

Cyprus: Constantinou I; Kovis, Kyzas, Stavros, Partzanu, Michael, Tasos, Miamiliotis, Savva, Charalambous, Panayitou.
England: Clemence; Whitworth, Beattie (Hughes), Bell, Watson, Todd, Ball, Channon, Macdonald, Keegan, Thomas (Tueart).

Eire 2: Switzerland 1

SWISS team manager Rene Hussy did the only thing he could in his precarious circumstances and recalled Kobi Kuhn to instil some method into his midfield and also brought back the highly promising 20-year-old Rene Botteron of FC Zurich to play alongside him.

This brought a much improved degree of stability in midfield which was the springboard for many attacks in the second half. Giles, Conroy and Givens, all experienced players in the English First Division provided the backbone of the Republic's attack that got off to a flying start when Manchester United's Martin headed a fine goal from a cross by Conroy with only three minutes gone.

The 50,000 crowd at Lansdowne Road roared the home side on and they completely swamped the inexperienced Swiss defence in the opening half hour, squandering three or four good chances and finally adding a second goal after half an hour through Ray Treacy. Conroy again started the assault with a shot that goalkeeper Burgener beat out but Givens pounced on the rebound, only for Burgener to parry the ball again. Treacy was on hand this time however to smash the ball firmly into the net.

In the second half the Swiss staged a comeback, motivated by Jakob Kuhn and his right hand man Botteron and carried on purposefully by the Swiss front trio Schild, Jeandupeux and Kurt Muller. Finally the Eire defence was pierced comprehensively in the 75th minute when Daniel Jeandupeux crossed for Muller to score with a fine volley and this was the signal for a suddenly confident Swiss side to press for the equaliser.

During this last period the Swiss got more and more on top, creating holes in the Eire defence that never existed before and the Irishmen were desperately hanging, defending with almost everyone back when the final whistle came to give them two precious points but leave many questions about their revival still unanswered.

Eire (2) 2 (Martin, Treacy)
Switzerland (0) 1 (Muller)

Eire: Roche; Kinnear, Mulligan, Hand, Dunne, Martin, Giles, Brady, Conroy, Treacy, Givens.
Switzerland: Burgener; Guyot, Bizzini, Heer, Hasler, Schild, Kuhn, Botteron, Rutschmann, Muller, Jeandupeux.

LEAGUE

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
RW Molenbeek	**38**	**25**	**11**	**2**	**92**	**39**	**61**
Antwerp	38	22	8	8	75	29	52
Anderlecht	38	19	14	5	72	27	52
FC Bruges	38	19	11	8	79	34	49
Beerschot	38	19	10	9	58	34	48
Standard Liege	38	18	8	12	59	42	44
Lierse SK	38	18	6	14	52	52	42
Lokeren	38	15	12	11	51	48	42
Waregem	38	13	13	12	48	42	39
CS Bruges	38	12	13	13	37	43	37
FC Liege	38	14	7	17	48	53	35
Beveren-Waas	38	11	12	15	30	42	34
Beringen	38	11	11	16	46	56	33
SC Charleroi	38	10	13	15	44	60	33
Berchem	38	8	16	14	34	47	32
Ostend	38	9	12	17	60	81	30
FC Malinois	38	9	10	19	25	47	28
Diest	38	8	7	23	32	70	23
Ol. Montignies	38	6	11	21	30	87	23
Winterslag	38	5	13	20	30	69	23

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV Eindhoven	**34**	**23**	**9**	**2**	**82**	**26**	**55**
Feyenoord	34	23	7	4	94	29	53
Ajax Amsterdam	34	21	7	6	76	34	49
Twente	34	17	8	9	56	35	42
AZ67 Alkmaar	34	14	12	8	50	32	40
Sparta Rotterdam	34	9	18	7	43	37	36
Telstar	34	11	14	9	42	45	36
Roda JC	34	11	10	13	50	61	32
Amsterdam	34	10	11	13	49	48	31
Den Haag	34	7	16	11	33	42	30
MVV	34	7	14	13	43	55	28
Go Ahead Eagles	34	9	10	15	40	55	28
De Graafschap	34	10	8	16	32	56	28
Excelsior	34	7	12	15	32	53	26
Utrecht	34	8	10	16	40	62	26
NAC Breda	34	8	9	17	38	62	25
Haarlem	34	7	10	17	36	69	24
Wageningen	34	7	9	18	39	74	23

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zurich	**25**	**18**	**1**	**6**	**62**	**19**	**37**
Young Boys	25	11	9	5	55	31	31
Grasshoppers	25	12	7	6	46	43	31
Basel	25	11	8	6	48	32	30
Sion	25	11	7	7	39	25	29
Lausanne	25	10	9	6	39	31	29
Servette	25	10	7	8	38	29	27
Winterthur	25	9	8	8	36	30	26
Neuchatel Xamax	25	8	6	11	44	45	22
Lugano	25	8	5	12	32	38	21
St Gallen	25	6	8	11	40	68	20
Chenois	25	6	7	12	26	54	19
Lucern	25	5	5	15	31	56	15
Vevey	25	3	7	15	29	64	13

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Jeunesse Esch	**22**	**15**	**3**	**4**	**63**	**23**	**33**
Avenir Beggen	22	14	3	5	4	29	31
Union	22	10	7	5	40	25	27
Red Boys Diff	22	9	6	7	37	34	24
Rumelingen	22	7	8	7	32	31	22
Alliance	22	6	9	7	37	36	21
Etzella	22	8	5	9	34	34	21
Progres	22	8	4	10	34	44	20
Aris Bonnevoie	22	6	7	9	39	45	19
Fola	22	8	2	12	40	55	18
Spora	22	4	6	12	23	45	14
RS Marl-Belair	22	4	6	12	20	42	14

IRISH LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Linfield	**22**	**17**	**3**	**2**	**53**	**23**	**37**
Coleraine	22	15	2	5	58	25	32
Glentoran	22	14	3	5	52	30	31
Ballymena Utd	22	10	7	5	43	25	27
Crusaders	22	11	5	6	46	30	27
Bangor	22	8	6	8	37	35	22
Portadown	22	8	5	9	29	37	21
Larne	22	9	1	12	38	37	19
Ards	22	7	3	12	28	43	17
Glenavon	22	5	3	14	31	62	13
Cliftonville	22	3	4	15	19	54	10
Distillery	22	2	4	16	20	53	8

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	**30**	**18**	**7**	**5**	**49**	**19**	**43**
Naples	30	14	13	3	50	22	41
Rome	30	15	9	6	27	15	39
Lazio	30	14	9	7	34	28	37
AC Milan	30	12	12	6	37	22	36
Torino	30	11	13	6	40	30	35
Bologna	30	10	12	8	36	33	32
Fiorentina	30	9	13	8	31	27	31
Inter Milan	30	10	10	10	26	26	30
Cagliari	30	6	14	10	22	30	26
Cesena	30	5	15	10	23	35	25
Ascoli	30	6	12	12	14	27	24
Sampdoria	30	4	16	10	21	35	24
Vicenza	30	5	11	14	19	34	21
Ternana	30	4	11	15	19	42	19
Varese	30	3	11	16	19	42	17

RUMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Din. Bucharest	**31**	**19**	**5**	**7**	**61**	**32**	**43**
AS Armata	31	17	3	11	43	35	37
Uni. Craiova	31	13	9	9	45	28	35
CSM Resita	31	15	4	12	52	42	34
Steaua Bucharest	31	14	5	12	57	41	33
Arges Pitesti	31	14	4	13	49	40	32
Ol. Satu Mare	31	13	6	12	35	38	32
Spor. Bucharest	31	13	5	13	42	46	31
CFR Cluj	31	10	10	11	25	30	30
Poli. Timisoara	31	12	6	13	28	37	30
Jiul Petroseni	31	12	5	14	37	32	29
Constanta	31	11	7	13	34	42	29
Poli. Iassi	31	13	3	15	40	51	29
UT Arad	31	12	4	15	35	38	28
Steagul Rosu	31	10	7	14	36	28	27
Uni. Cluj	31	9	9	13	24	36	27
Ch Ramn Valcea	31	9	9	13	32	51	27
Galati	31	10	5	16	24	52	25

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Bonus Pts	Pts
St Etienne	**38**	**23**	**6**	**9**	**70**	**39**	**6**	**58**
Marseille	38	18	9	11	65	45	4	49
Lyon	38	16	11	11	64	53	5	48
Nimes	38	16	11	11	56	49	4	47
Nantes	38	16	11	11	50	42	2	45
Bastia	38	15	11	12	54	47	4	45
Lens	38	16	8	14	59	59	4	44
Metz	38	15	10	13	54	56	4	44
Strasbourg	38	16	8	14	49	56	3	43
Monaco	38	18	4	16	64	68	2	42
Reims	38	15	8	15	57	57	3	41
Bordeaux	38	15	7	16	48	49	2	39
Lille	38	15	5	18	53	56	4	39
Nice	38	13	10	15	59	63	3	39
Paris St Germ	38	12	12	14	57	65	1	37
Troyes	38	12	10	16	46	55	3	37
Sochaux	38	11	10	17	41	49	2	34
Angers	38	9	10	19	48	60	5	33
Rennes	38	10	11	17	38	53	2	33
Red Star Paris	38	7	12	19	43	55	3	29

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fenerbahce	**30**	**15**	**13**	**2**	**43**	**18**	**43**
Galatasaray	30	16	6	8	36	34	38
Eskisehirspor	30	11	13	6	27	19	35
Besiktas	30	12	11	7	30	23	35
Adanaspor	30	12	9	9	38	23	33
Ankaragucu	30	8	16	6	26	23	32
Adana Demirspor	30	8	14	8	29	27	30
Trbzonspor	30	9	12	9	19	17	30
Altay Izmir	30	8	13	9	26	29	29
Boluspor	30	10	9	11	29	35	29
Zonguldakspor	30	9	9	12	27	34	27
Giresunspor	30	6	13	11	30	25	25
Bursaspor	30	6	13	11	20	27	25
Goztepe Izmir	30	4	17	9	23	37	25
Samsunspor	30	7	10	13	24	31	24
Kayserispor	30	4	12	14	13	38	20

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Borussia M'bach	**33**	**20**	**8**	**5**	**82**	**39**	**48**
Eintracht F'furt	33	18	7	8	89	47	43
Hertha Berlin	33	18	6	9	57	41	42
Hamburg	33	17	7	9	54	38	41
Cologne	33	16	7	10	73	49	39
Fortuna Dus'dorf	33	15	9	9	63	53	39
Kickers Off'bach	33	17	4	12	70	59	38
Schalke 04	33	15	7	11	49	37	37
Eintracht Bruns	33	13	8	12	50	42	34
Bayern Munich	33	14	6	13	57	62	34
Bochum	33	14	5	14	51	49	33
Rot-Weiss Essen	33	10	12	11	54	65	32
Kaiserslautern	33	13	4	16	53	52	30
Duisburg	33	12	6	15	57	73	30
Werder Bremen	33	9	7	17	44	65	25
Stuttgart	33	7	8	18	47	77	22
Tennis Berlin	33	5	6	22	38	86	16
Wuppertal	33	2	7	24	29	83	11

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hajduk Split	**31**	**17**	**8**	**6**	**45**	**26**	**42**
Vojvodina	31	14	12	5	47	29	40
Red Star Belgrade	31	14	8	9	54	41	36
Dinamo Zagreb	31	11	13	7	36	29	35
Velez	31	13	8	10	56	33	34
Sloboda	31	11	12	8	37	37	34
Partizan	31	12	9	10	49	42	33
OFK Belgrade	31	11	8	12	38	36	30
Zeljeznicar	31	10	10	11	43	44	30
Radnicki Nis	31	9	12	10	31	35	30
Celik	31	10	9	12	32	37	29
Olimpija	31	7	15	9	35	42	29
Radnicki Krag.	31	9	10	12	24	35	28
Rijeka	31	8	11	12	28	37	27
Sarajevo	31	6	14	11	30	38	26
Vardar	31	5	15	11	27	38	25
Bor	31	7	11	13	29	44	25
Proleter	31	7	11	13	25	43	25

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympiakos Pir	**34**	**24**	**9**	**1**	**65**	**21**	**57**
AEK Athens	34	23	9	2	73	20	55
PAOK Salonika	34	19	8	7	73	28	46
Ethnikos	34	17	11	6	48	28	45
Panathinaikos	34	14	12	8	62	41	40
Aris Salonika	34	15	9	10	48	38	39
Panachaiki	34	11	11	12	41	39	33
Iraklis	34	11	10	13	40	40	32
Iannina	34	13	6	15	38	43	32
Panionios	34	10	10	14	37	45	30
Kastoria	34	10	10	14	40	64	30
Panseraikos	34	7	15	12	23	36	29
Atromitos	34	8	12	14	24	46	28
Olympiakos Vol	34	12	3	19	36	56	27
Aigaleo	34	11	3	20	34	53	25
Kavala	34	10	4	20	38	49	24
Kalamata	34	8	7	19	23	60	23
Larissa	34	5	7	22	24	59	17

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ujpest Dozsa	**28**	**20**	**5**	**3**	**71**	**33**	**4**
Honved	28	16	10	2	53	21	4
Ferencvaros	28	10	13	5	45	29	3
Csepel	28	12	7	9	34	28	3
Videoton	28	9	10	9	35	40	2
Vasas	28	10	7	11	43	46	2
Zalaegerszeg	28	11	5	12	32	35	2
Salgotarjan	28	10	6	12	33	42	2
Raba ETO	28	10	5	13	40	44	2
MTK/VM	28	9	7	12	33	39	2
Diosgyor	28	7	11	10	26	37	2
Tatabanya	28	9	5	14	28	40	2
Haladas	28	8	6	14	28	44	2
Bekescsaba	28	6	9	13	24	33	2
Pecs	28	6	8	14	26	40	2

TABLES

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ruch Chorzow	**27**	**20**	**4**	**3**	**59**	**20**	**44**
Stal Mielec	27	14	8	5	36	19	36
Slask Wroclaw	27	12	9	6	38	29	33
Wisla Krakow	27	12	7	8	36	27	31
Gornik Zabrze	27	7	14	6	45	35	28
Zaglebie	27	10	7	10	27	28	27
Polonia	26	6	14	6	23	26	26
Lech Poznan	27	9	8	10	28	36	26
Legia Warsaw	27	7	10	10	36	33	24
LKS Lodz	27	7	10	10	26	33	24
GKS Tychy	27	7	9	11	31	36	23
Pogon	27	8	7	12	25	32	23
Szombierki	26	6	10	10	37	40	22
ROW Rybnik	27	5	11	11	20	34	21
Gwardia Warsaw	27	6	9	12	17	34	21
Arka Gdynia	27	6	9	12	20	42	21

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	**30**	**21**	**7**	**2**	**62**	**12**	**49**
Porto	30	19	6	5	59	29	44
Sporting Lisbon	30	17	9	4	59	25	43
Guimaraes	30	16	6	8	64	36	38
Boavista	30	16	6	8	58	32	38
Belenenses	30	13	7	10	43	39	33
Setubal	30	11	7	12	47	37	29
CUF Barreiro	30	10	9	11	42	40	29
Leixoes	30	10	9	11	29	42	29
Farense	30	12	3	15	40	50	27
Atletico	30	10	6	14	38	69	26
Uniao de Tomar	30	9	5	16	39	59	23
Academico	30	7	6	17	33	47	20
Oriental	30	5	10	15	21	51	20
Olhanense	30	6	5	19	40	67	17
Espinho	30	4	7	19	25	64	15

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CSKA Sofia	**28**	**15**	**7**	**6**	**50**	**30**	**37**
Levski Spartak	28	14	7	7	52	30	35
Slavia Sofia	28	14	5	9	50	33	33
Locomotiv Plov.	28	12	9	7	49	41	33
Akademik Sofia	28	13	7	8	36	40	33
Dounav Russe	28	14	4	9	38	26	32
Slivene	28	9	9	10	37	42	27
Trakia Plovdiv	28	12	3	13	38	47	27
Botev Vratza	28	9	8	11	43	45	26
Pirin	28	11	4	13	30	38	26
Locomotiv Sofia	27	9	7	11	47	41	25
Spartak Plevene	27	8	9	10	32	42	25
Cernomore	28	9	7	12	27	40	25
Minjor Pernik	28	10	4	14	32	42	24
Etar Trinovo	28	7	5	16	39	49	19
Jantra Gabrovo	28	6	6	16	24	47	18

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slov. Bratislava	**28**	**15**	**6**	**7**	**66**	**30**	**36**
Inter Bratislava	28	17	1	10	62	36	35
Bohemians	28	14	6	8	44	25	34
Brno	28	12	7	9	37	39	31
Slavia	28	12	5	11	44	41	29
Teplice	28	9	11	8	27	31	29
VSS Kosice	28	11	5	12	65	57	27
Dukla Prague	28	9	9	10	32	34	27
Banik Ostrava	28	9	8	11	30	33	26
Spartak Trnava	28	10	6	12	29	35	26
Jablonec	28	11	4	13	25	33	26
Skoda	28	12	2	14	42	51	26
Zilina	28	10	6	12	35	47	26
Trinec	28	8	8	12	24	35	24
Sparta	28	9	5	13	37	52	23
AC Nitra	28	10	1	16	30	50	21

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	**34**	**20**	**10**	**4**	**66**	**34**	**50**
Real Zaragoza	34	15	8	11	58	47	38
Barcelona	34	15	7	12	57	36	37
Real Sociedad	34	12	12	10	37	32	36
Hercules	34	11	14	9	37	36	36
Atletico Madrid	34	11	13	10	46	34	35
Salamanca	34	10	15	9	33	29	35
Betis	34	14	6	13	35	41	34
Elche	34	13	8	13	35	44	34
Athletic Bilbao	34	13	7	14	40	42	33
Espanol	34	14	5	15	38	47	33
Valencia	34	12	8	14	53	48	32
Las Palmas	34	12	8	14	41	39	32
Gijon	34	11	10	13	40	40	32
Granada	34	10	11	13	35	47	31
Malaga	34	13	5	16	33	42	31
Celta	34	10	10	14	30	41	30
Murcia	34	7	9	18	31	66	23

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Magdeburg	**26**	**17**	**7**	**2**	**57**	**28**	**41**
Carl Zeiss Jena	26	17	4	5	42	23	38
Dynamo Dresden	26	12	8	6	42	30	32
Berliner Dynamo	26	10	10	6	47	29	30
Frankfurt	26	8	10	8	37	31	26
Stahl Riesa	26	11	4	11	34	42	26
Sachsen, Zwickau	26	9	7	10	42	39	25
Lokomotive Leip.	26	9	6	11	37	39	24
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	26	9	5	12	37	42	23
Karl-Marx-Stadt	26	7	8	11	28	38	22
Chemie Halle	26	5	11	10	37	49	21
Wismut Aue	26	7	7	12	24	43	21
Hansa Rostock	26	7	6	13	29	35	20
Stralsund	26	4	7	15	21	46	15

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SW Innsbruck	**34**	**23**	**2**	**9**	**72**	**33**	**48**
VOEST Linz	34	15	9	10	49	32	39
Rapid Vienna	34	15	8	11	51	38	38
Austria/WAC	34	14	9	11	57	46	37
Linz ASK	34	12	9	13	47	51	33
Sturm Graz	34	11	10	13	40	43	32
Admira/Wacker	34	11	8	15	45	53	30
Austria Salzburg	34	10	9	15	35	54	29
Aus. Klagenfurt	34	11	6	17	32	51	28
Eisenstadt	34	8	10	16	32	59	26

WEST HAM

● *Continued from page 21*

When Robson, Jennings and Taylor have been at the Chadwell Heath Soccer Academy for a couple of years, they and the rest of the side are still young enough to become really good. The old guard has gone, the potential is there and with hard work, a new West Ham, just as skilful, just as attractive, can be built around what they have now.

At Wembley only Kevin Lock and Mervyn Day stood out for me as really good performers and in terms of experience they are just boys. Nevertheless Lock looked like another Moore in the making, and has improved enormously in this his first full season.

It was nice too of Mervyn Day the first home-made goalkeeper West Ham have produced, to pay tribute to Ernie Gregory, the former West Ham 'keeper who was assistant manager, ran the reserves and still scouts and coaches the goalkeepers.

For me, it was no surprise to see Messrs Greenwood and Lyall on the bench accept the West Ham goals with the same outward calm with which they watch goals go in at the other end. Not for them the histrionics of many bosses who leap from the bench, arms upraised as if they had done it, and showing themselves to the fans as the architect behind the goals. Nice too after it was all over to hear Ron and John trying to pass each other the credit for success. Nice also for West Ham's chairman Mr. Pratt — would that all 92 League clubs had a chairman like him.

Stopper

Now being realistic one has to say some down to earth things. There's a lot of work to be done to build on this new success. They still need someone who can stand up and fight with a stopper on his back and lay good balls to the midfield men. Jennings seems to be the most likely but he has much to do. Robson also has to curb his temperament. He has an elegant left foot which can flutter over the ball and carries him past two or three opponents at times and also packs a terrific shot. In addition he is more than ordinarily useful in the air. But he is also a bit too impetuous.

And then the biggest paradox of all ... Alan Taylor. Somehow West Ham must find a place in their side for him but the joke is that the boy cannot play. Like Jimmy Greaves he messes things up when he tries to take part in approach play, yet he has the same Greaves-type instinct for the goal chance and even the quarter chance, scoring goals that no one else would ever get.

Muller has or had this same instinct, getting many of his goals from rebounds off the woodwork and balls that 'keepers failed to hold. But Muller at his best also played a big part in the build-up. Taylor has to learn to do this and he also has to acquire the skill to go by opponents to match his speed and goal instinct.

You cannot afford to leave such a player out of your side, but somehow Taylor has to improve in other areas. He has time, with youth on his side but he has to do it or remain an ornament who gets goals.

Many critics believe that West Ham will now go spending big to do something in the European Cup Winners Cup. But this would be completely contrary to their policy which is to buy only when necessary. I feel almost certain they will work to build on their new success, work on the training ground, work in the belief that skill and intelligence, when matched by equal effort will bring them out on top.

I wish them well. English football has a desperate need for at least one team like West Ham.

SOUTH AMERICAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
Libertadores Cup
GROUP 1
March 21

NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Argentina)* (1) 1 (Giachello)
ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) (0) 1 (Cabral)

Newell's OB: Carrasco, Rebottaro, Pavoni, Capurro, Ortiz, Piccini, Gallego, Zanabria, Salas (Valdano), Obberti, Giachello (Rocha).
Rosario Central: Biasutto, Gonzalez, Pascuttini, D. Killer, M. Killer, Aimar, Solari, Zavagno (Mancinelli), Boveda (Carril), Cabral, Kempes.

OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (1) 2
CERRO PORTENO (1) 1

April 4

NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Argentina) (1) 3 (Valdano 2, Giachello)
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (1) 2 (Insfran, Paniagua)

Newell's OB: Carrasco, Rebottaro, Pavoni, Capurro, Ortiz, Piccini, Gallegos, Zanabria, Valdano, Obberti, Giachello.
Olimpia: Almeida, Sosa, Bordon, Alcides Sosa, Correa, Torres, Benitez, Kaiser, Paniagua, Insfran, Aquino (Espinoza). Referee: Edison Perez (Peru).

CERRO PORTENO (Paraguay) (1) 1 (Talavera)
ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) (3) 3 (Kempes, Solari, Cabral)

Cerro Porteno: Spesson, Rodriguez, Encho, Gavilan, Frizzola, Osorio, Jara Saguir, Talavera, Gonzalez, Jimenez, Beron.
Rosario Central: Biasutto, Gonzalez, Pascuttini, D. Killer, M. Killer, Aimar, Solari, Zavagno, Boveda, Cabral, Kempes. Referee: Alberto Martinez (Chile).

April 9

NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Argentina) (1) 3 (Giachello, Gallego, Valdano)
CERRO PORTENO (Paraguay) (1) 2 (Gimenez, Beron)

Newell's OB: Carrasco, Rebottaro, Pavoni, Capurro, Ortiz, Piccini, Gallego, Zanabria (Ribecca), Valdano (Salas), Giachello, Dangaise.
Cerro Porteno: Cortez, Rodriguez, Encho, Gavilan, Frizzola, J. Osorio, Z. Osorio, Talavera, Gonzalez, Beron, Gimenez.

OLIMPIA (Paraguay) 0
ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) 0

April 11
(Play-off)

ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) (0) 1 (Kempes)
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Argentina) 0

Rosario Central: Biasutto, Gonzalez, Pascuttini, D. Killer, M. Killer, Aimar, Solari, Zavagno, Boveda (Mancinelli), Cabral, Kempes.
Newell's OB: Carrasco, Rebottaro, Pavoni, Capurro, Ortiz, Piccini (Ribecca), Gallego (Berta), Zanabria, Dangaise, Giachello, Valdano. Referee: Jose Martinez (Uruguay).

GROUP 2
March 14

J. WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) 1
UNION ESPANOLA (Chile) 1

March 26

UNION ESPANOLA (Chile) 7
HUACHIPATO (Chile) 2
JORGE WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) 1
THE STRONGEST (Bolivia) 1

April 1

UNION ESPANOLA (Chile) 4
JORGE WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) 1

April 4

HUACHIPATO (Chile) (1) 4
JORGE WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) 0

April 8

UNION ESPANOLA (Chile) (1) (Las Heras 2, Palacios, Machuca)
THE STRONGEST (Bolivia) 0

April 11

HUACHIPATO (Chile) 4
THE STRONGEST (Bolivia) 2

GROUP 3
March 23

VASCO DA GAMA (Brazil) (1) 1 (Luiz Carlos)
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) (1) 1 (Vanderley)

Vasco: Andrada, Gilson, Miguel, Renc, Alfineto, Alcir, Zanata, Jorginho, Roberto, Bill, Luiz Carlos.
Cruzeiro: Raul, Nelinho, Darci Menezes, Sousa, Vanderley, Jose Carlos, Eduardo, Roberto Batata, Palhinha, Dirceu Lopes, Joanninho.

NACIONAL MEDELLIN (Colombia) (0) 2 (Londero 2)
DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (1) 1 (Barroso)

Nacional: Navarro, Moncada, Maturana, Campaz, Salgado, Tamayo, Alvirez, Retat, Gallego, Londero, Tortoriello (Santa).
Cali: Zape, Contreras, Casondo, Calero, Castro, Perchy, Arboleda, Da Graca, Torres, Barroso, Barona (Umana). Referee: Eduardo Rondon (Ecuador).

April 6

VASCO DA GAMA (Brazil) 0
DEP. CALI (Colombia) 0

Vasco: Andrada, Paulo Cesar, Renc, Joel, Alfineto, Alcir, Zanata, Luiz Carlos, Bill, Roberto, Galdino.
Cali: Zape, Contreras, Carducci, Casondo, Castro, Calero, Torres, Arboleda (Munoz), Barona, Da Graca, Barroso (Reyes).

CRUZEIRO BELLO HORIZONTE (Brazil) (2) 2 (Palhinha 2)
NACIONAL MEDELLIN (Colombia) (0) 3 (Londero 3)

Cruzeiro: Raul, Nelinho, Morais, Souza, Darci Menezes, Piazza, Ze Carlos (Acedor), Eduardo, Palhinha, Dirceu Lopes, Moacir (Candido).
Nacional: Navarro, Moncada, Maturana, Campas, Salgado, Tamaio, Retat, Diz, V. Campas, Londero, Tortoriello.

April 10

CRUZEIRO BELLO HORIZONTE (Brazil) 2
DEP. CALI (Colombia) 1
VASCO DA GAMA DE RIO (Brazil) 2
NACIONAL MEDELLIN (Colombia) 0

GROUP 4
March 19

PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) 1
LIGA DEPORTIVA UNIVERSITARIA (Ecuador) 1
GALICIA (Venezuela) 4
NACIONAL (Ecuador) 0

GROUP 5
March 21

PENAROL (Uruguay) 0
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (1) 1 (Ramirez)

Penarol: Corbo, Gonzalez, Garisto, Peruena, Zoryez, Jimenez, Acosta, Silva, Quevedo, Morena, Laguno.
Universitario: Caceres, Soria, Cuellar, Chumpitaz, Toyos, Techera, Aparicio, Rojas, Chirinos, Ramirez, Oblitas.

March 26

UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (0) 2 (Ramirez, Oblitas)
UNION HUARAL (Peru) (2) 2 (Luces, Gutierrez)
PENAROL (Uruguay) (0) 2 (Morena 2)
WANDERERS (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Santos)

Penarol: Corbo, Gonzalez, Peruena, Fernandez, Zoryez, Barbosa, Garcia, Silva, Quevedo, Morena, Yaguto.
Wanderers: Ortiz, Burgos, Duarte, Barrio, Alvez, Martinez, Sierra, Muhlenhaler, Forlan, Alonso, Olivera. Referee: Oscar Scolfaro (Brazil).

March 30

UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 3 (Ramirez 3)
WANDERERS (Uruguay) 1
UNION HUARAL (Peru) 0
PENAROL (Uruguay) 3 (Silva, Quevedo, Morena)

April 2

UNION HUARAL (Chile) 2
WANDERERS (Uruguay) 2

April 8

UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (0) 3 (Cuellar, Techera 2)
PENAROL (Uruguay) (0) 2 (Unane, Morena)

Universitario: Caceres, Soria, Cuellar, Chumpitaz, Toyos (Diaz), Techera, Aparicio, Echandia (Orc), Chirinos, Ramirez, Oblitas.
Penarol: Corbo, Gonzalez, Garisto, Peruena, Zoryez, Garcia (Acosta), Silva, Barboza (Unanue), Quevedo, Morena, Pizani. Referee: Angel Coerezza (Argentia).

LIBERTADORES CUP — Final group standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group 1							
Rosario Central (Arg)*	7	3	4	—	9	5	10
Newell's Old Boys (Arg)*	7	3	2	2	9	9	8
Olimpia (Parag)	6	2	3	1	7	5	7
Cerro Porteno (Parag)	6	—	1	5	5	11	1
* includes play-off match							
Group 2							
Union Espanola (Chile)	6	3	3	—	17	5	9
Huachipato (Chile)	6	2	2	2	10	10	6
The Strongest (Bolivia)	6	2	2	2	8	11	6
J. Wilsterman (Bolivia)	6	—	3	3	4	13	3
Group 3							
Cruzeiro (Brazil)	6	3	1	2	11	10	7
Dep. Cali (Colombia)	6	2	2	2	6	6	6
Nacional Medellin (Colom)	6	2	2	2	7	8	6
Vasco da Gama (Brazil)	6	1	3	2	7	7	5
Group 4							
Liga Dep. Universitaria (Ecuad)	6	3	3	—	12	7	9
Portuguesa (Venezuela)	6	1	4	1	5	8	6
Dep. Galicia (Venezuela)	6	1	3	2	7	6	5
Nacional (Ecuador)	6	1	2	3	8	11	4
Group 5							
Universitario (Peru)	6	4	2	—	12	6	10
Penarol (Uruguay)	6	4	—	2	13	7	8
Wanderers (Uruguay)	6	1	1	4	8	10	3
Union Huaral (Peru)	6	—	3	3	7	17	3

SOUTH AMERICAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
"Atlantic" Semi-final Group
May 6

ROSARIO CENTRAL (Argentina) (1) 2 (Solari, Kempes)
INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) (0) 0

Rosario Central: Biasutto, Gonzalez, Pascuttini, D. Killer, M. Killer, Aimar, Solari, Carril, Boveda, Cabral, Kempes.
Independiente: Perez, Comisso, Lopez (Carrica), Sa, Pavoni, Semenewicz, Galvan, Rojas, Balbuena, Bochini, Bertoni. Referee: R. Hormazabal (Chile).

"Pacific" Semi-final Group
May 4

LIGA DEPORTIVA UNIVERSITARIA (Ecuador) 0
UNIVERSITARIO DE DEPORTES (Peru) 0

Universitario: Caceres, Navarro, Cuellar, Chumpitaz, Aparicio, Peralta, Palomino, Techera, Echandia (Chirinos), Ramirez, Oblitas.
Lig. Dep. Universitaria: Massso, Moreno, De Carlos, Guevara, Tobar, Sousman, Rivadeneira, Gomez, Zubia, Perez, Polo Carrera.

May 7

LIGA DEPORTIVA UNIVERSITARIA (Ecuador) (3) 4
UNION ESPANOLA (Chile) (1) 2

● *Continued from page 33*

Sadurni was back by default more than anything.

His weaknesses weren't exposed as CFB's attack took every game by the scruff of the neck and went forward to the championship. And Michels warded off criticism of Sadurni by saying: "So you think we're weak in defence, and in goal? It's only because we put so much more emphasis on attack that it looks like that."

Just before this season began CFB were thwarted in efforts to buy Juan Antonio Deusto from Malaga and then Jose Iribar from Bilbao.

Helenio Herrera might happily remember that after Inter's first championship in the sixties, in 1963, he signed the ice-cool Giuliano Sarti from Fiorentina because he didn't have total confidence in either Lorenzo Buffon or Ottavio Bugatti, both experienced internationals.

Sarti's signing paid off for Herrera; would a similar successful coup have paid off for Michels?

It can hardly fail to be remembered at Nou Camp that it was overdue perseverance with the once-great Antonio Ramallets that cost the club victory in the 1961 Champions' Cup Final.

Was this another lesson which should have been heeded?

And would Sotil have made any difference?

KIST, KNOBEL **(Coach)**, ***VAN KRAAY*** **(back row),**
THIJSSEN and ZUIDEMA of Holland

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EUROPEAN CUP FINAL ISSUE

F.C. BARCELONA